

A Situation Assessment: Coordinated Habitat Conservation & Restoration in Montana

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Appendix C: Inventory of Conservation & Restoration Programs



Photo Courtesy of Paul Sihler

APPENDIX C

A Partial Inventory of Programs, Potential Partners, Technical Assistance, Possible Funding Sources and Contact Information for Conservation Projects in Montana.

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
State Wildlife Grants	<p>Programs Administered by Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks</p> <p>The State Wildlife Grant (SWG) program is a strategy for keeping unlisted species off the endangered species list. Fish, Wildlife and Parks has selected a subset of priorities from the Comprehensive Fish and Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CFWCS) and developed a SWG action plan for the period 2005 – 2011 (http://fwp.mt.gov/specieshabitat/strategy/actionplan.html). SWG grants provide about \$1 million in federal funding per year. SWG grants require a 1:1 match with non-federal funds. For FY2008-2009 the match was provided by a state general fund appropriation. Over the next five years, \$300,000 will be allocated to the Big Hole River Initiative and another \$300,000 will be allocated to the Milk River Initiative.</p>	<p>Mike Aderhold (406) 453-2459 Montana FWP maderhold@mt.gov</p> <p>http://fwp.mt.gov/specieshabitat/strategy/default.html</p>
Big Hole River Initiative	<p>SWG funds have been used to document populations of westslope cutthroat trout, identify potential habitats for population restoration, summarize threats to known restoration populations, and provide recommendations for addressing those threats; survey and inventory of burbot and lake trout populations in Elk Lake and Twin Lakes, and burbot populations in Clark Canyon reservoir; evaluate the reproductive status of adult arctic grayling in Red Rock Lake and Rogers Lake, and, document the spawning and stocking success, as well as efforts to establish a conservation brood in Red Rock Reservoir. SWG funds have been used to restore fluvial Arctic grayling in the upper Missouri River basin in Montana. SWG funds also are being used to inventory freshwater mussels.</p> <p>The state and federal agencies also are working with 30 landowners on approximately 146,000 acres of habitat on a variety of projects</p>	<p>Dick Oswald (406) 683-9310 Montana FWP oswalddick@mt.gov</p> <p>Peter Lamothe (406) 683-9310 Montana FWP plamothe@mt.gov</p> <p>Jim MaGee (406) 683-9310 Montana FWP magejames@mt.gov</p>

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<p>Milk River Initiative</p>	<p>related to maintaining instream flow and restoring stream and riparian habitats. Funding is provided from a variety of sources through FWP, DNRC, USFWS and NRCS. Private conservation groups also are working cooperatively with the agencies to achieve the objectives of this initiative.</p> <p>SWG funds have been used to implement the Montana Glaciated Plains Milk River Conservation and Restoration State Wildlife Grant. The number one objective of this grant is to place 10,000 acres within the Milk River Riparian Zone under conservation easements or other appropriate strategies to conserve fish and wildlife communities including game and non-game species groups. FWP is currently working with four ranches to develop those easements.</p>	<p>Jeff Everett (406) 683-3893 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service jeff_everett@fws.gov</p> <p>Pat Gunderson (406) 228-3709 Montana FWP pgunderson@mt.gov</p>
<p>Future Fisheries</p>	<p>The Future Fisheries Improvement Program has worked to restore rivers, streams and lakes to improve and restore Montana's wild fish habitats. About \$600,000 are available each year for costs to design, construct, and maintain projects that restore, enhance or protect habitat for wild fishes. Preference is given to projects that restore habitat for native fishes. FWP, working with an independent review panel, reviews grant applications twice per year. Applications must be received by January 1 and before July 1 for consideration during the current grant cycle. Applications may be obtained from any FWP office. A copy of the application is also available on-line.</p> <p>Program funding may be provided for costs of design, construction, and maintenance of projects that restore, enhance or protect habitat for wild fishes. Preference will be given to projects that restore habitats for native fishes. Since its inception, about \$8 M has been spent on approximately 400 projects. Work includes riparian fencing; riparian enhancement; stream bank stabilization; channel restoration; irrigation diversion screens; fish passage; reefs in lakes; and, water leases.</p>	<p>Glenn Phillips (406) 444-5334 Montana FWP gphillips@mt.gov</p> <p>http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/futurefisheries/default.html</p>

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Native Species	<p>In 1999, the Legislature expanded the Program by adding funding from the Resource Indemnity Trust Fund and directing a portion of the funding to projects that specifically enhance bull trout and cutthroat trout, with emphasis on mineral reclamation projects. It is difficult to do restoration projects at mines because of the resulting liabilities associated with hazardous waste.</p> <p>The Fisheries Native Species Program supports projects that include both research (primarily survey and inventory) and habitat protection and enhancement. Program funds may be used to match SWG funds. Funds are also being used in coordination with other federal funding sources, e.g. the Landowner Incentive Program.</p>	<p>Travis Horton (406) 444-3364 Montana FWP thorton@mt.gov</p>
Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Program for Montana	<p>The Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation program provides funding to entities of local government for the design, construction, and installation of fish screens, fish ladders, and other fish passage devices associated with water diversions. The intent of the proposed diversion improvements must be to reduce fish mortality, reduce entrainment of fish in water distribution systems, or increase subsequent survival and reproductive success of fish species native to and present in the project area. In Montana, this program is specific to areas west of the continental divide. Annual federal funding for the program is approximately \$400,000. A 35% match of non-federal funds and/or in-kind contributions. Department matching funds typically come from the Future Fisheries program. FWP has experienced difficulty in using all of the federal funds available to it for this program because it is voluntary and there are no specific incentives for individual landowners to participate in the program.</p>	<p>Mark Lere (406) 444-2432 Montana FWP mlere@mt.gov http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/fishesrestoration.asp</p>
Habitat Montana	<p>The purpose of Habitat Montana is to preserve important habitats that are severely threatened. The program focuses on the protection of</p>	<p>Steve Knapp (406) 444-4717</p>

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	<p>three habitat types: 1) Intermountain grasslands – important habitats that are threatened by sub-divisions; 2) Riparian habitats; and, 3) Sagebrush-grasslands. Habitat priorities for Habitat Montana overlap with those of CFWCS. And, CFWCS validated the habitat priorities. Habitat Montana projects all occur in Tier 1 and Tier 2 areas.</p> <p>According to FWP Commission guidance, Habitat Montana projects must protect habitats; must provide a public benefit of recreation opportunities; and, must be distributed statewide. FWP typically uses these funds to purchase conservation easements from willing sellers. Projects implemented under this program typically require a management plan and hunting access.</p> <p>Habitat Montana has a focus to conserve intact, native habitats. It does not have a restoration component. Habitat Montana funds may be used to match SWG funds. Habitat Montana is funded a \$6,180,000 for the FY 08/09 biennium.</p>	<p>Montana FWP sknapp@mt.gov</p>
<p>Forest Legacy Program</p>	<p>Montana's Forest Legacy Program is designed to conserve forest lands and to maintain natural and public values by assisting with the purchase of conservation easements or fee-title on private forest lands. The program emphasizes maintenance of working forests, while protecting watersheds and water quality and promoting sustainable forestry, recreation, forest habitats, and T&E species. Landowner participation in the program is completely voluntary. Their lands must be forested and fall within designated forest legacy areas.</p> <p>Since 2000, the Forest Legacy program has brought \$26 M into Montana. The program is funded nationally, through competitive grants. The funds come to FWP and are then re-granted to the partners. FWP works with an advisory committee to evaluate proposals, but retains responsibility for the final recommendation. Easements acquired with these funds are held by FWP. FWP retains reporting and</p>	<p>Steve Knapp (406) 444-4717 Montana FWP sknapp@mt.gov http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/forestlegacy.asp</p>

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<p>Upland Game Bird Program</p>	<p>accountability responsibilities. The program requires a 25% match, which typically is offered by a land trust or donated by the landowner.</p> <p>The Upland Game Bird Program provides cost-shared funds to private landowners to develop upland game bird habitat. These projects may include establishing and maintaining shelterbelts, planting nesting cover and food plots and implementing improved grazing management systems. Projects must be open to some free public game bird hunting and usually involve at least 160 contiguous acres of land.</p> <p>FWP also funds sagebrush leases through this program. Sagebrush leases are 30-year agreements that preclude sagebrush spraying and burning. The lease pays a one-time payment of \$12/acre. The program is intended to benefit sage grouse, but the program provides benefits for all sagebrush obligate species. 175,000 acres are enrolled in the program. Working in cooperation with NRCs and the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture, funds from this program also have been used to support work with private landowners to conserve wetlands.</p> <p>The upland game bird program is funded a \$1,258,000 for the FY 08/09 biennium.</p>	<p>Rick Northrup (406) 444-5633 Montana FWP rnurthup@mt.gov</p> <p>http://fwp.mt.gov/wildthings/uplandgamebird/brochure.html</p>
<p>Special License Auction</p>	<p>The Montana Legislature authorized the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission to sell, through public auction, one each bighorn sheep, moose, goat, elk and mule deer license per year. As prescribed by enabling legislation, funding is to be used for the beneficial management of the identified species. Funding is typically allocated for specific survey work to deal with localized issues, capture and relocation efforts, research efforts, habitat enhancement and herd health issues or in the case of bighorn sheep, a portion of the funding is allocated to a capital account for habitat protection. The sheep auction is funded at \$250,000 for the FY 08/09 biennium.</p>	<p>Quentin Kujala (406) 444-5672 Montana FWP qkujala@mt.gov</p> <p>http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/dollars.html</p>

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Migratory Bird Stamp	Revenues generated from the sale of waterfowl licenses are earmarked for the protection, conservation and development of Montana wetlands. This program is funded at \$360,000 for the FY 08/09 biennium.	Rick Northup (406) 444-5633 Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks rnorthup@mt.gov
Montana Wetlands Legacy	The Mission of this program is to create a Wetlands Legacy for Montana by protecting, restoring, and enhancing Montana's wetlands, riparian areas, and associated uplands through a fully integrated, voluntary partnership. The Legacy is a partnership among state and federal agencies and non-governmental organizations, coordinated by FWP. Each year, the Legacy works to protect 50,000 acres of ecologically important wetlands, riparian areas, and associated watershed lands. The program is funded from a variety of existing funding sources.	Tom Hinz (406) 994-7889 Montana FWP thinz@mt.gov www.wetlandslegacy.org
Wildlife Mitigation Trust	<p>The Wildlife Mitigation Program for Libby and Hungry Horse Dams initiated in 1987 aims to replace wildlife and habitat lost during the dams' development. The Wildlife Mitigation Agreement signed by the State of Montana, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and Bonneville Power Administration transferred \$12.5 million to a state trust account with both principal and interest earmarked to finance the program. Projects may include habitat enhancements, leases, conservation easements or fee-title acquisitions agreed to by willing landowners.</p> <p>The mitigation program has the ability to leverage funds from NAWCA grants, HCP grants, Forest Legacy and Farm & Ranch grants to accomplish larger land transactions. Wildlife mitigation in northwestern Montana also is fully integrated with the Avista re-licensing agreement.</p> <p>The mitigation trust balance is currently more than \$11M. Currently, the program spends \$200,000/year in trust revenue with an additional \$100</p>	Alan Wood (406) 751-4595 Montana FWP awood@mt.gov http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/wildlifemitigation.asp http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/wildlifemitigation.asp

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	<p>to \$150k/year accumulating in the trust. The trust supports 2 staff people. The focus of their work is partnerships with land trusts; doing habitat enhancement with USFS; and, paying for fixed costs (title work, appraisals, etc.) for projects completed in cooperation with the land trusts.</p>	
<p>Fisheries Mitigation</p>	<p>The Fisheries Mitigation Program aims to protect, mitigate and enhance fisheries and fish habitats affected by Libby and Hungry Horse Dams. Sub-basin plans have been developed for the Kootenai and Flathead river drainages. These plans define the needs for all of the fisheries and wildlife resources that have been impacted by hydro-electric power development in the sub-basins. These plans have been amended into the Northwest Power Planning Council's Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Plan. These sub-basin plans and CFWCS are compatible, especially in the identification of core areas and corridors between core areas for protection.</p> <p>FWP, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and Bonneville Power Administration are developing memoranda of agreement regarding fisheries mitigation for the Flathead River. This program provides \$15 million over the next three years to FWP and the Tribes for fisheries mitigation.</p>	<p>Brian Marotz (406) 751-4546 Montana FWP bmarotz@mt.gov</p>
	<p>Programs Administered by Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation</p>	
<p>Conservation & Resource Development Division</p>	<p>The Conservation Districts Bureau Loan and Grant Program provides technical and financial assistance for various conservation programs. Loans and grants are issued to the Conservation Districts which sponsor the project applications. Loans and grants are available to support local administration, watershed planning, education and range improvements.</p>	<p>Steve Schmitz (406) 444-6691 Montana DNRC sschmitz@mt.gov</p>

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	<p>Renewable Resource Project Planning grants are authorized by the Montana Legislature to assist public entities in the planning and development of renewable resource grant applications for projects that measurably conserve, develop, manage, or protect Montana's renewable resources.</p> <p>Reclamation and Development project planning grants are authorized by the Montana Legislature and provide up to \$50,000 per project to local governments to procure consulting/engineering services for the design of natural resource projects.</p> <p>The Reclamation and Development Grants Program is designed to fund projects that compensate Montana citizens for the effects of exploration and mining on Montana lands and projects that serve the public interest and the State of Montana. Funding for this program is derived from interest income from the resource Indemnity Trust Fund. This fund receives proceeds from taxes levied on mineral production. The Legislature has allocated \$3 million of the interest income from the Resource Indemnity Trust Fund to the Reclamation and Development Grants Program. Grants are limited to \$300,000 per project.</p> <p>The Montana Legislature established the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program to fund the conservation, management, development and preservation of Montana's renewable resources. The program provides both grant and loan funding for public facility and other projects that conserve, manage, develop or protect Montana's renewable resources. Grants are limited to \$100,000 per project; loans are limited by the applicant's debt capacity.</p>	<p>Pam Smith (406) 444-6839 Montana DNRC pamsmith@mt.gov</p> <p>Greg Mills (406) 444-6668 Montana DNRC gmills@mt.gov</p> <p>http://dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/default.asp</p>
Forestry Division	<p>The mission of the Forestry Division is to ensure sustainability of Montana forests, rural lands, and communities through cooperative wildland fire protection, sound forest management practices, and by</p>	<p>Lowell Whitney (406) 542-4256 Montana DNRC</p>

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	<p>promoting a viable forest-based economy.</p> <p>The Forestry Division is able to incorporate information from CFWCS into its strategic planning and spatial analysis processes. The Division is developing a Habitat Conservation Plan. CFWCS will be referenced in that document. The Forest Stewardship Program provides consultation services to private landowners. There are opportunities to disseminate information about CFWCS through stewardship workshops and to incorporate information from CFWCS into forest stewardship plans.</p>	<p>lwhitney@mt.gov http://dnrc.mt.gov/forestry</p>
Trust Land Management Division	<p>The mission of the Trust Land Management Division is to manage the State of Montana's trust land resources to produce revenue for the trust beneficiaries while considering environmental factors and protecting the future income-generating capacity of the land.</p> <p>The Trust Land Management Division has developed a Real Estate Management Plan. The plan identifies the need to conserve development rights on trust lands that have high value for development and includes a framework for compensation to the school trust for conservation. The Montana Legislature has authorized a State Land Bank Fund. The fund allows the Trust Land Management Division to sell parcels of state land and use the proceeds from the sales to purchase other land, easements, or improvements that are likely to provide greater or equal trust revenue. Land bank also provides the opportunity for the Trust Land Management Division to work with other agencies and conservation groups to exchange lands in a manner that both benefits both the school trust and protects state land parcels that have high conservation value.</p>	<p>Tom Schultz (406) 444-4978 Montana DNRC tschultz@mt.gov http://dnrc.mt.gov/trust/default.asp</p>
Water Management Bureau	<p>The Water Resources Division promotes and coordinates the wise use and conservation of Montana's water resources for current and future generations. The Water Management Bureau supports that mission with ground and surface water studies, planning to maintain water</p>	<p>Rich Moy (406) 444-6633 Montana DNRC rmoy@mt.gov</p>

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	quality and quantity and support for watershed planning.	http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/default.asp
	Programs Administered by Montana Department of Environmental Quality	
Major Facility Siting Act	<p>A certificate of compliance may be required from the Department of Environmental Quality for certain major pipelines and electric transmission lines. Exploration for geothermal resources is also regulated. Associated facilities such as transportation links, transmission substations and other facilities associated with the delivery of energy are included. Federally owned or controlled facilities must satisfy the substantive criteria of the Major Facility Siting Act (MFSA). The MFS application process requires applicants to consult with other agencies. The process also requires the applicant to submit mitigation measures that have been proposed by the agencies with whom they consulted. Permitting requires applicants to minimize adverse impacts. Therefore, there are opportunities for using mitigation funds in a way that also achieves the purpose of the CFWCS. Mitigation for potentially significant impacts provides opportunity for partnership projects. Examples include Avistacorp, Lake Broadview project, Madison/Missouri relicensing and the Express Pipeline.</p>	<p>Tom Ring (406) 444-6785 Montana DEQ tring@mt.gov</p> <p>www.deq.mt.gov/MFS/index.asp</p>
Water Protection Bureau	<p>Water Permitting Program permits the discharge of polluted waters into public water ways. Water Quality Act does not include any reclamation requirements. Permits are issued according to standards and the purpose of the standards is to protect beneficial uses of water. Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's) require a permit if they are actively discharging. The Farm Bill and 319 funds can provide funding to remove feed lots out of the stream. Farm Bill funded projects also can be used as an alternative to a CAFO permit. CFWCS should be integrated in the design of those projects.</p>	<p>Bonnie Lovelace (406) 444-4969 Montana DEQ blovelace@mt.gov</p> <p>www.deq.mt.gov/wqinfo/mpdes/cafo.asp</p>

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<p>Watershed Protection Program</p>	<p>The Clean Water Act has guided water quality improvement for over 30 years. Montana was successful in limiting pollution from industrial and municipal discharges through point source permits. Now the challenge is to protect and restore water quality affected by nonpoint source pollution. The Nonpoint Source Pollution Program is designed to encourage voluntary pollution control activities, provide guidance, and match local funding. DEQ has completed a non-point source management plan that incorporates a watershed approach.</p> <p>The Watershed Protection Program administers grants through the 319 program. This program provides about \$2.3M/year to Montana to fund agency activity, program administration and on-the-ground planning and projects. Approximately half of the funds are available for local projects include I&E, planning, restoration and ground water projects. The 319 program requires a 60/40 match. A portion of the match is provided with state general fund. Local projects require local involvement and local matching funds. Each contract has a DEQ project officer assigned to the project, but the work is accomplished at the local level. DEQ retains responsibility for compliance with the federal requirements and reporting.</p>	<p>Robert Ray (406) 444-5319 Montana DEQ rray@mt.gov</p> <p>www.deq.mt.gov/wqinfo/ nonpoint/Nonpoint SourceProgram.asp</p> <p>www.deq.mt.gov/ wqinfo/nonpoint/ 2007NONPOINTPLAN/ Final/NPSPlan.pdf</p> <p>www.deq.mt.gov/wqinfo/ nonpoint/Grants/ 319Grants.asp</p>
<p>Wetlands Protection Program</p>	<p>The Department of Environmental Quality staffs and provides leadership to the Montana Wetland Council. The Council meets quarterly and acts a forum for all stakeholders to participate in wetland issues. With DEQ leadership, the Council developed a draft Conservation Strategy for Montana's Wetland and Situation Assessment, which guides the Council in pursuing wetland conservation activities. Wetland conservation priorities are funded by an Environmental Protection Agency grant program administered by the DEQ Wetland Coordinator. Currently, there are 20 active grant projects involving state and local governments.</p>	<p>Lynda Saul (406) 444-6652 Montana DEQ Lsaul@mt.gov</p> <p>www.deq.mt.gov/wqinfo/ Wetlands/Index.asp</p>

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<p>Montana Department of Transportation</p>	<p>Programs Administered by Other Montana State Agencies</p> <p>The Department of Transportation's Highway Program requires mitigation for projects that will impact wetlands. DOT is required to mitigate within the watershed prior to the impact occurring. Mitigation is included within the cost of the project. DOT tries to accomplish a greater level of mitigation that the degree of impact, contributing to its "mitigation reserve system". The State Transportation Implementation Plan identifies the wetland impacts that will be associated with bridges and major reconstructions; communicates to potential partners funding that could be available to assist with wetland projects, in exchange for the mitigation credits that would accrue from the project; and, specifies that the use of transportation funds for wetland mitigation require perpetual easements, water rights and fencing. DOT's current priority is Watershed 12, the lower Missouri Watershed in northeastern Montana.</p>	<p>Bonnie Steg (406) 444-9205 Montana DOT bsteg@mt.gov</p>
<p>Montana Department of Agriculture – Noxious Weed Trust Fund</p>	<p>The Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund grant program was established by the 1985 Montana Legislature to provide funding for the development and implementation of weed management programs; provide for research and development of innovative weed management techniques, including biological control; and to support educational and other research projects that benefit Montana citizens. The grant program is designed to assist counties, local communities, researchers, and educators in their efforts to solve a variety of weed problems in Montana. The program provides cost-share funding for local cooperative weed management areas and education and research projects, including non-chemical research and demonstration programs. Funding is generally through a government entity (local weed district, conservation district, extension office, or university). Approximately \$500,000 is available to fund these projects. Weed management is a critical element in many conservation projects, especially those that</p>	<p>Dave Burch (406) 444-3140 Montana Dept. of Agriculture dburch@mt.gov</p> <p>Kim Johnson (406) 444-1517 Montana Dept. of Agriculture kjohnson@mt.gov</p> <p>http://agr.mt.gov/weedpest/trustFund.asp</p>

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Governor's Office	<p>include restoration. Weed management projects also can be a catalyst to bring people together around local conservation issues.</p> <p>Governor Schweitzer sponsored a forum in June 2006 focused on the topic of restoration and promoting a restoration economy in Montana. Participants in the forum identified opportunities, obstacles and potential policy changes in eleven different thematic areas related to the issue of restoration. From that list, two priorities were identified for each of the themes. The Governor's Restoration Forum established the emergence of a new Montana economy, one that's providing new business opportunities based largely on work to restore landscapes and ecosystems. One result of the forum was the Governor's Restoration Initiative, introduced to the 2007 Legislature as HB388. This legislation would have funded grant programs, but the legislation did not pass. As an alternative, the Governor's Office has committed \$300k in the Governors emergency quality protection fund as a catalyst for doing restoration work and a coordinator position has been established in DNRC. The Governor's Restoration initiative also is linked with a broader effort by the Western Governor's Association which, if adopted, would provide federal funding for restoration of areas in the west that have previously been degraded by projects that contributed to the national economy.</p>	<p>Hal Harper (406) 444-4456 Governor's Office hharper@mt.gov www.restoration.mt.gov</p>
Montana Department of Justice – Natural Resource Damage Program	<p>Decades of mining and mineral processing operations in and around Butte and Anaconda released substantial quantities of hazardous substances into the Upper Clark Fork River Basin between Butte and Milltown. These hazardous substances extensively degraded the area's natural resources. In 1983, the State of Montana filed a natural resource damage lawsuit against the Atlantic Richfield Co. (ARCO) to recover damages for injuries to the water, soils, fish and wildlife in the basin and the public's lost use and enjoyment of these injured resources. The 1999 partial settlement earmarked about \$130 million to restore</p>	<p>Carol Fox (406) 444-0209 Montana Dept. of Justice cfox@mt.gov www.doj.mt.gov/lands/ naturalresource/</p>

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<p>Montana State University Extension Service</p>	<p>or replace the injured natural resources in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin. In early 2000, the state finalized the criteria and procedures for spending these settlement funds. The state elected to establish a grant process administered by NRD. Government agencies, private entities and individuals are all eligible to apply for restoration funds. In general, restoration funds can be used on projects that will improve water, fish and wildlife resources; public drinking water supplies; and, natural resource-based recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, hiking and wildlife watching.</p> <p>The Montana State University Range Extension program provides public education about conservation and some assistance to help people make it happen. The range extension program includes about 25 workshops a year around the state. Extension can provide support to local watershed groups – either by local agents or the work of the specialists. The range extension program currently works directly with the Rancher’s Stewardship Alliance, the Blackfoot Challenge and the Madison Valley Ranchlands Group.</p> <p>Extension has an established level of trust with landowners. Extension should be able to help identify the “early adopters”, “local champions”, etc. and, thus, help to be a bridge to the local community for local conservation initiatives.</p> <p>One specific program, The Undaunted Land Steward Certification program, implemented cooperatively with the Montana Stockgrower’s Association, recognizes farms and ranches that sustain the long-term productivity and health of Montana’s grazing lands. Certification also demonstrates that Montana’s farm and ranch families are preserving Montana’s open space and scenic beauty while producing food and fiber using agricultural practices that are environmentally sustainable. The program works with individual landowners to certify those who are practicing conservation. The program also includes 10-year term</p>	<p>Jeff Mosley (406) 994-5601 Montana State University jmosley@montana.edu www.undauntedstewardship.montana.edu/certificate.htm</p>

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	<p>easements that keep land in open space. Educational information then may be developed around these properties. The program has been used to protect historical sites on private property and included interpretation around those sites.</p> <p>Undaunted Stewardship receives federal funding that pass through BLM to MSU. Although future funding for this program is uncertain, MSU has sufficient funds to continue the program for another three years without additional funding and the extension portion of the program will continue, regardless.</p>	
<p>University of Montana Avian Science Center</p>	<p>The mission of the Avian Science Center is to promote ecological awareness and informed decision making through the collection, synthesis, and dissemination of science-based information on western birds. The Avian Science Center contributes to bird conservation efforts through coordinating and conducting research and monitoring to determine population status and causes for observed population declines. The Avian Science Center also is interested in increasing public awareness of current bird conservation issues. The Avian Science Center has developed a monitoring plan for neo-tropical migrants, based on a lat/long grid. The project includes a data base for 150 to 200 species. Land descriptions are attached to each of the monitoring points. The project provides an opportunity to use bird distribution relative to habitat types and an opportunity to evaluate the effects of land use, using birds as indicators. This program provides basic information that is accessible and can support various land management decisions.</p>	<p>Dick Hutto (406) 243-4292 U of M Avian Science Center hutto@mso.umt.edu http://avianscience.dbs.umt.edu/</p>
<p>Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Foundation</p>	<p>The mission of the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Foundation is to provide private support for preserving and enhancing Montana's natural, cultural and recreational resources.</p>	<p>Spence Hegstad (406) 444-6759 Montana FWP Foundation fwpfoundation@mt.gov</p>

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	<p>Among its other programs, the Foundation administers the Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Trust. This program was funded through the sale of federal cabin site leases at Canyon Ferry reservoir. The program is restrictive – funds may be used only for the purchase of land or purchase of interests in land, with of the revenue spent for projects in the portion of the Missouri River watershed, from Three Forks to Holter Dam. Screening criteria for projects include protection of important wildlife habitat, protection of important fish habitat, opportunities for public recreation and public access. Matching funds are not required, but encouraged. Often, these funds are sufficient to provide seed money and additional funds are necessary to complete the projects.</p> <p>The Foundation also will administer a similar trust that will be established as a result of the sale of cabin site leases by the Corps of Engineers of leases within CMR. These funds may only be spent on the CMR and within a 5-mile buffer of CMR.</p>	<p>www.mfwpfoundation.org/ www.mfwpfoundation.org/trust.html</p>
<p>Montana Natural Heritage Program</p>	<p>The Montana Natural Heritage Program was established by the Montana State Legislature in 1983. The program is operated by the University of Montana, is located in the Montana State Library and functions as part of the Natural Resource Information System. MHP is the Montana's source for information on the status and distribution of our native animals and plants, emphasizing species of concern and high quality habitats such as wetlands. MHP collects, validates, and distributes information, and assists natural resource managers and others in applying it effectively.</p>	<p>Sue Crispin (406) 444-3019 Montana Heritage Program scrispin@mt.gov http://nhp.nris.state.mt.us/</p>
	<p>Programs Administered by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service</p>	
<p>Partners for Fish & Wildlife</p>	<p>The mission of the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program is to efficiently achieve voluntary habitat restoration on private lands,</p>	<p>Jim Stutzman (406) 727-7400 ext. 24</p>

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	<p>through financial and technical assistance, for the benefit of federal trust species. The Partners Program provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners and Tribes who are willing to work with USFWS and other partners on a voluntary basis. Within Montana, this program has identified 10 focus areas. The focus areas are not all currently staffed and one program goal is to locate a biologist within each of those areas who then will be responsible for developing conservation plan specific to each area.</p> <p>The Montana Partners Program assists private landowners to restore wetlands and riparian habitat by offering technical and financial assistance; restores native prairie habitats and other habitat types of special importance to Federal trust species; emphasizes partnerships among private landowners, conservation organizations, and other government agencies; and, focuses on threatened ecosystems and imperiled watersheds. In addition to providing technical support, the Montana Partners Program as an annual budget of about \$200,000 as seed money to support on-the-ground projects.</p>	<p>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service jim_stutzman@fws.gov http://ecos.fws.gov/partners/viewContent.do?viewPage=home www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/pfw/montana/mt1.htm</p>
<p>Habitat Conservation Plans</p>	<p>The HCP Land Acquisition Grants program provides funding to States and Territories (and nongovernmental organizations through their States and Territories) for land acquisitions that are associated with approved Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP). The HCP Land Acquisition program has three primary purposes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to fund land acquisitions that complement, but do not replace, private mitigation responsibilities contained in HCPs, 2) to fund land acquisitions that have important benefits for listed, proposed, and candidate species, and 3) to fund land acquisitions that have important benefits for ecosystems that support listed, proposed and candidate species. Proposed land acquisition must complement, but not replace, private mitigation responsibilities contained in the HCP. The HCP Land Acquisition Grants are one of three grant programs authorized 	<p>Tim Bodurtha (406) 758-6882 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service tim_bodurtha@fws.gov</p>

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	<p>by Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act. HCP grants are currently funded at a level of \$45 million/year nationally and are awarded on the basis of competitive applications. Grants required a 25 percent non-federal match.</p> <p>An approved HCP and Incidental Take Permit are necessary prerequisites for an application for an HCP grant. Currently, there are two approved HCP's in Montana, one held by Plum Creek Timber Company and one held by Stimson Lumber Company. The Montana Department of Natural Resources is in the process of developing an HCP for its lands in western Montana. It is anticipated that the HCP will be approved in 2009. BNSF Railway also is in the process of developing an HCP for railway operations in the Middle Fork Flathead River corridor. It is uncertain when this HCP will be completed.</p>	
<p>Land & Water Conservation Fund</p>	<p>Land and Water Conservation Fund projects are comprehensive land purchases for a conservation purposes, including threatened and endangered species, recreation and access to public lands. The program is administered through several federal agencies. Project proposals typically are initiated through the sponsoring agency's planning process. Interested third parties may assist in developing the project proposals and may assist by securing the property until the LWCF funds are awarded to complete the project. But, the projects still must be consistent with the objectives of the agency that sponsored the project.</p> <p>USFWS, USFS, BLM and NPS all compete for the same pool of LWCF funds. There is no formal coordination among the agencies related to this program. Coordination happens as a consequence of a third party working with more than one agency in specific project areas.</p> <p>Montana has received \$125M in LWCF funds since 1998. During FY07, a total of \$28M in LWCF funds was available, nationwide. Of that, Montana received \$2M for the Blackfoot and \$4.6M for Selway</p>	<p>Gary Sullivan (406) 727-7400 ext. 25 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service gary_l_sullivan@fws.gov</p> <p>Ron Erickson (406) 329-3623 U.S. Forest Service rmerickson@fs.fed.us</p> <p>Craig Haynes (406) 896-5040 Bureau of Land Management chaynes@mt.blm.gov</p>

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	<p>Creek. The anticipated funding level for FY 2008 is \$16. Generally, the federal agencies anticipate that fewer LWCF funds will be available in the future and that Montana will be less competitive for those funds than it has been in prior years.</p>	
<p>Landowner Incentive Program</p>	<p>The primary objective of the Landowner Incentive Program is to establish or supplement State landowner incentive programs that protect and restore habitats on private lands, to benefit species identified in the State's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (State Wildlife Action Plan) or classified as Special Concern by the State, or Federally listed, proposed, or candidate species or other species determined to be at-risk, and provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners for habitat protection and restoration.</p> <p>LIP funds grants of two types which are awarded to state agencies. The purpose of the Tier-1 grants is to fund staff and associated support necessary to develop a new, or enhance an existing, landowner incentive program. The objectives of the Tier-2 grant place a priority on the implementation of State programs that provide technical and financial assistance to the private landowner. Programs should emphasize the protection and restoration of habitats that benefit species-at-risk on private lands. LIP grants require a 25% non-federal match.</p> <p>Montana has received \$2,207,439 in LIP funds since FY2003. Montana was eligible for up to \$1,089,510 from this program in FY2007. Montana received \$180,000 that year. This program was not funded in the FY2008 budget.</p>	<p>Otto Jose (303) 236-8156 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service otto_jose@fws.gov</p> <p>http://federalasst.fws.gov/lip/lip.html</p> <p>http://federalasst.fws.gov/lip/LIP%20MT%20project%20highlight.pdf</p>
<p>North American Wetland Conservation Act</p>	<p>The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 (NAWCA) provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-</p>	

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<p>Intermountain West Joint Venture</p>	<p>associated migratory birds and other wildlife. There is a Standard and a Small Grants Program. Both are competitive grants programs and require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 1-to-1 ratio. Funds from U.S. Federal sources may contribute towards a project, but are not eligible as match.</p> <p>The Congressional appropriation to fund the Act's Grants Program in FY 2007 is approximately \$39.4 million. Montana has received about \$3 million annually from this program. Coordination through the joint ventures is essential.</p> <p>The Joint Ventures are an outgrowth of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. The JV's are the primary mechanism for the plan to restore waterfowl populations. The plan has a strong science foundation which then drives habitat efforts that are implemented through partnerships. The program is self directed at the local level. The federal government funds the infrastructure for each of the 14 joint ventures, but funding for projects comes primarily from the partners. The IWJV includes portions of 11 states, including western Montana.</p> <p>The mission of the Intermountain West Joint Venture is to facilitate the long-term conservation of key avian habitat including planning, funding, and developing habitat projects that benefit all biological components of Intermountain ecosystems. IWJV achieves its mission by developing partnerships with private and public landowners who support habitat conservation. The Joint Venture promotes the restoration and maintenance of all bird populations; fosters the protection, restoration, and enhancement of wetlands, riparian habitats, and the widely diverse uplands characteristic of the region. IWJV has an annual budget of \$250,000 for small projects and seed money for larger projects.</p>	<p>Dave Smith (406) 493-0925 Intermountain West Joint Venture dave@iwjv.org www.iwjv.org/</p>

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Northern Great Plains Joint Venture	The Northern Great Plains Joint Venture is focused on the Great Plains in Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota and South Dakota. The Joint Venture provides a forum for bringing the partners together to exchange information, to identify project needs and to provide science, planning and consultation from the region down to the partners.	Ken Sambor (701) 328-6326 Northern Great Plains Joint Venture mountainprairie@fws.gov www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/nawm/ngppv.htm
Prairie Pothole Joint Venture	<p>The mission of the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture is to implement conservation programs that sustain populations of waterfowl, shorebirds, other waterbirds and prairie landbirds at objective levels through targeted wetland and grassland protection, restoration and enhancement programs. These activities will be based on science and implemented in collaboration with multiple stakeholders. PPJV states include Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa. The PPJV's focus has primarily been on waterfowl and most of the partner funds came to the PPJV related to waterfowl conservation. PPJV is transitioning to more of a focus on all birds, especially with the additional focus on grasslands.</p> <p>The USFWS Strategic Habitat Conservation initiative includes a proposal for the Montana Hi-Line. The Strategic Conservation initiative is a proposal for landscape scale conservation, implemented through partnerships, with the potential for inclusion in the federal budget.</p>	Casey Stemler (701) 328-6326 Prairie Pothole Joint Venture Casey_Stemler@fws.gov www.ppjv.org/implemented.htm
	Programs Administered by Other Federal Agencies	
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	The Natural Resources Conservation Service administers several programs, authorized by the Farm Bill, with conservation objectives that complement CFWCS:	Peter Husby (406) 587-6902 NRCS

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for people who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat primarily on private land. The FY 2007 WHIP allocation for Montana was \$427,567. The program requires a 25% non-federal match. • The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. This program focuses on conservation of working lands and encourages management practices that promote sustainability. The FY 2007 EQIP allocation for Montana was \$31,370,259. This program requires a 25% non-federal match. • The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. This program uses a combination of 15 year restoration contracts; 30-year and permanent easements; and, the purchase of wetlands at the appraised value for agriculture. The FY 2007 WRP allocation for Montana was \$3,628,938. • Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) – this program focuses on keeping rangeland in rangeland and has been used to conserve sagebrush/grasslands in Montana. The FY 2007 GRP allocation for Montana was \$35,484. But, the acreage objective for this program currently is capped. • The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) provides matching funds to help purchase development rights to keep productive farm and ranchland in agricultural uses. To qualify, farmland must: be part of a pending offer from a State, tribe, or local farmland protection program; be privately owned; have a conservation plan for highly erodible land; be large enough to 	<p>phusby@mt.nrcs.usda.com</p> <p>www.nrcs.usda.gov/ programs/whip/</p> <p>www.nrcs.usda.gov/ PROGRAMS/EQIP/</p> <p>www.nrcs.usda.gov/ programs/wrp/</p> <p>www.nrcs.usda.gov/ programs/GRP/</p> <p>www.nrcs.usda.gov/ programs/frpp/</p> <p>www.nrcs.usda.gov/ programs/frpp/</p> <p>www.nrcs.usda.gov/ programs/csp/</p>

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	<p>sustain agricultural production; be accessible to markets for what the land produces; have adequate infrastructure and agricultural support services; and have surrounding parcels of land that can support long-term agricultural production. The FY 2007 FRPP allocation for Montana was \$1,504,268. This program provides up to 50 percent of the fair market easement value of the conservation easement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Security Program (CSP) is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes on Tribal and private working lands. This program supports transition to “green” methods of crop production. The FY 2007 CSP allocation for Montana was \$9,223,496. The target area for those funds is Judith Basin County. <p>Reauthorization of the Farm Bill currently is under consideration by Congress. The nature and funding levels of these programs, therefore, are subject to change.</p>	
<p>USDA Farm Service Agency</p>	<p>The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a voluntary land retirement program that helps agricultural producers protect environmentally sensitive land, decrease erosion, restore wildlife habitat, and safeguard ground and surface water. The non-federal match for this program in Montana is provided by PPL Montana’s license for the Madison-Missouri project. Expenditure of the funds therefore is limited to the Madison-Missouri corridor from Hebgen Lake to the Fred Robinson Bridge. The emphasis of this program is riparian restoration within a one-mile buffer of the corridor.</p> <p>State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) SAFE provides an opportunity to develop grassroots cooperative conservation projects</p>	<p>Glenn Patrick (406) 587-6880 U.S. Farm Services Agency www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=copr&topic=cep www.qu.org/content/news/press_room/crp_560_SAFE.pdf</p>

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USDA Forest Service	<p>to address high priority wildlife needs through habitat restoration. It allows producers to install practices that benefit high priority State wildlife conservation objectives through the use of targeted restoration of vital habitat. This program authorizes the retirement of approximately 20,000 acres of cropland in Montana for the purpose of sagebrush restoration.</p> <p>The Forest Service has a policy that each National Forest will incorporate the state action plans in into USFS planning documents and will be referenced in NEPA analyses. Although all alternatives might not achieve CFWCS goals, the expectation is that many will. The Forest Service uses CFWCS data sets in developing the layers in the assessment of watersheds. The assessments include four layers: Watershed restoration needs; Fire risk; Wildlife habitat; and, Municipal watersheds. The Forest Service also uses CFWCS helps to set priorities for land adjustment strategies and zoning areas for aggregations of habitats.</p> <p>The Forest Service also has developed an Open Space Conservation Strategy to identify how the agency can best help conserve open space, with an emphasis on partnerships and collaborative approaches. The agency is interested in addressing the effects of the loss of open space on private forests; on National Forests and Grasslands and the surrounding landscape; and on forests in cities, suburbs, and towns. The strategy charts a path forward to work in partnership with states, local governments, landowners, and non-profit organizations to address the loss of open space threat. The strategy provides a framework to strengthen and focus existing and new Forest Service conservation actions across the agency.</p>	<p>Kate Walker (406) 329-3287 Northern Region USFS kpwalker@fs.fed.us</p> <p>Jon Haber (406) 329-3399 Northern Region USFS jhaber@fs.fed.us</p> <p>www.fs.fed.us/r1 www.fs.fed.us/openspace</p>
USDI Bureau of Land Management	<p>The Bureau of Land Management has a directive to use state action plans in the development of Resource Management Plans. However, it</p>	<p>Gayle Sitter (406) 896-5024</p>

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	<p>may be several years before the RMP's are updated. The BLM is using CFWCS to set priorities related to implementation of existing RMP's; as one source of information for NEPA analyses; and, as a source of information to support permit stipulations and other mitigations. There is the potential for structuring conservation projects around petroleum development projects, i.e. achieving conservation objectives in a way that allows the energy companies to also fulfill their permit requirements.</p> <p>When the RMP's are updated, the RMP's will provide a framework for proposals to fund projects that are consistent with CFWCS. BLM's Budget Planning System is a competitive funding system and, if a project is approved, it might take four years to get the funding. There is good potential for getting funding for sage grouse projects. The BLM has provided funding to the Heritage Program to augment survey projects that also are funded with SWG.</p>	<p>Bureau of Land Management gayle_sitter@blm.gov www.blm.gov/mt/st/en.html</p>
<p>Environmental Protection Agency</p>	<p>EPA administers a regulatory program for point source water pollution. EPA has regulatory oversight and permitting review for water quality permits. The permits must comply with water quality standards. The permitting program is fee-based and operated by the states.</p> <p>The Clean Water Act, section 303, the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program, a voluntary, non-regulatory program for controlling the discharge of non-point source pollutants. Non-point source pollution accounts for more than 80% of the water pollution in Montana. Section 319 of the Clean Water Act authorizes EPA to grant funds to the State and Tribes which support a wide variety of activities including technical assistance, financial assistance, education, training, technology transfer, demonstration projects, and monitoring to assess the success of specific nonpoint source implementation projects. Previously, the majority of these funds in Montana have been used for on-the-ground demonstration projects, e.g. fencing, grazing systems,</p>	<p>Julie DalSoglio (406) 457-5025 United States EPA dalsoglio.julie@epa.gov www.epa.gov/Region8/about</p>

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	<p>alternative watering sources, timber practices, etc. The TMDL approach is putting a greater emphasis on a more holistic, watershed based planning approach. Montana also is required to assess whether water bodies are meeting water quality standards, including identification of the causes of impairment, and to complete a TMDL plan for each of the listed water bodies by 2012. To date, Montana has completed 400 plans. These are available on DEQ website.</p> <p>Montana receives approximately \$3M per year in 319 funds through DEQ. Of those, \$2.6M are used for watershed/TMDL planning and \$400k for on the ground work. These funds require a 40% match.</p>	
<p>U. S. Bureau of Reclamation</p>	<p>The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation seeks to protect local economies and preserve natural resources and ecosystems through the effective use of water. Current Bureau activities that relate with the CFWCS include efforts to maintain flows to support passage for Pallid Sturgeon below Ft. Peck Reservoir and in the lower Yellowstone and to maintain flows for Bull Trout in the St. Mary's drainage.</p>	<p>Justin Kucera (406) 247-7304 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation jkucera@gp.usbr.gov www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao</p>
<p>U. S. Army Corps of Engineers</p>	<p>Section 404 of the Clean Water Act requires approval from the Corps of Engineers before placing dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. Project applicants may use one of three approaches to mitigate impacts to wetlands - Direct mitigation; Purchase properties from a wetland mitigation bank; or, participate in the In-Lieu-Fee program. The latter approach allows an applicant to pay a fee to a third party who then assumes responsibility to implement appropriate mitigation to offset the consequences of the permitted activity. Of these options, the In-Lieu-Fee program probably is the most flexible and, therefore, offers the greatest potential for coordination with other local wetland restoration projects. Regardless of which mitigation method is employed, applicants should be encouraged to coordinate with other community based conservation initiatives.</p>	<p>Alan Steinle (406) 441-1375 United States Army COE Allan.E.Steinle@usace.army.mil www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-rmt/mthome.htm</p>

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<p>Native American Fish & Wildlife Society</p>	<p>Programs Administered by Tribal Governments</p> <p>The Native American Fish & Wildlife Society (NAFWS) is a national tribal organization incorporated to develop a national communications network for the exchange of information and management techniques related to self-determined tribal fish and wildlife management. Its mission is to assist Native American and Alaska Native Tribes with the conservation, protection, and enhancement of their fish and wildlife resources.</p> <p>USFWS provides support to NAFWS to organize and conduct the Conservation Law Enforcement training for tribal resource programs.</p>	<p>D. Fred Matt (303) 466-1725 NAFWS fmatt@nafws.org</p> <p>Ron Skates (406)585-9010 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ron_skates@fws.gov</p> <p>www.nafws.org</p>
<p>Montana/Wyoming Tribal Fish and Wildlife Commission</p>	<p>The Montana and Wyoming Tribal Fish and Wildlife Commission (MWTFWC) was begun in recognition of the importance and respect accorded to fish and wildlife by Native Montana and Wyoming people, and of the need for a regional native organization to aid in development and protection of Indian fish and wildlife resources. Formation of the Montana and Wyoming Tribal Fish and Wildlife Commission incorporates more than a present-day commitment to these resources. It represents a dedication to the earth that began with our own beginning, and a pledge to our fellow creatures that cannot be broken.</p>	<p>www.fws.gov/ montanafishandwildlife/ MTWYTFWC.html</p>
<p>Apsaalooke Nation – Crow Tribe</p>		<p>Henry Rides Horse (406) 638-3752 Apsaalooke Nation – Crow Tribe henryr@crownation.net</p>

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Blackfeet Nation	The Blackfeet have use SWG grants to purchase bear proof dumpsters and to support a graduate study of swift fox.	Gayle Skunk Cap (406) 338-7202 Blackfeet Nation kyi_yo60@hotmail.com
Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation	The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribe's fish and wildlife program is supported with funds from a variety of sources including hydro-power mitigation, mitigation for reconstruction of Highway 93, Tribal Wildlife Grants and the Tribal Landowner Incentive Program. Several projects have goals similar to those in CFWCS, including surveys for Canada lynx; peregrine falcon and trumpeter swan reintroductions; amphibian surveys; participation in cutthroat trout and bull trout partnerships; and, riparian and wetland conservation and restoration.	Tomm McDonald (406) 883-288 Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes tomm@cstkt.org
Ft. Belknap Indian Reservation Gros Ventre & Assiniboine Tribes	Ft. Belknap has developed a bison management plan. Ferrets, prairie dogs, plovers and owls occur in the buffalo pasture. Ft. Belknap is a cooperator in ferret surveys. Ft. Belknap also has implemented a Wetlands Program with an overall goal of developing a comprehensive program to develop the administrative, programmatic, legal, and regulatory framework that will allow Ft. Belknap to assess, monitor, control, and protect reservation wetland resources.	Jeff Stiffarm (406) 353-4801 Ft. Belknap Indian Reservation fjbelfnw@TTC-CMC.net
Ft. Peck Indian Reservation Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes	Ft. Peck's fish and wildlife program is transitioning from a subsistence approach to a sporting hunting approach and a greater emphasis on management. Tribal projects that overlap with the goals of CFWCS include its bison management plan, swift fox re-introductions and the Manning Lake migratory bird refuge.	Robbie Magnan (406) 768-5305 Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes robertm@nemontel.net

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Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation		Jason Whiteman (406) 477-6503 Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation ncreources@mail.ncheyenne.net
Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation Chippewa Cree Tribe	The Tribe has developed a comprehensive wildlife management plan for the reservation. The plan emphasizes management of game species.	Leland Top Sky (406) 395-4207 Chippewa Cree Tribe warden@cct.rockyboy.org
	Programs Administered by Land Trusts	
Montana Association of Land Trusts	<p>The Montana Association of Land Trusts' mission is to promote and support excellence in private voluntary land conservation in Montana through leadership, collaboration, education and outreach.</p> <p>The Montana Association of Land Trusts is comprised of 12 member organizations. Together, they hold 99% of the private land easements held by non-profit organizations in Montana. The Association has a coordination function, providing an opportunity to focus more on policy, communication, legislation and emerging issues. The Association provides the opportunity for the land trusts to collectively think big picture. It also provides a scouting function, looking for new opportunities to do private land conservation.</p>	Glenn Marx (406) 490-1659 Montana Assoc. of Land Trusts malt@jeffersonvalley.net www.montanalandtrusts.org
Bitter Root Land Trust	The Bitterroot Land Trust is a local organization, focused specifically on conservation in the Bitterroot Valley. BRLT formed out of concern for the rapid rate of growth in Ravalli County.	Grant Kier (406) 375-0956 Bitterroot Land Trust grant.kier@BitterRootLandTrust.org

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Clark Fork-Pend' Oreille Conservancy	The Clark Fork-Pend' Oreille Conservancy is a land trust organized in 2002 to work with landowners to protect the land, water and wildlife in Bonner County Idaho and Sanders County Montana.	www.bitterrootlandtrust.org Robb McCracken (208) 263-9471 Clark Fork-Pend' Oreille Conservancy CFPOConservancy@sandpoint.net www.cfpoconservancy.org
Five Valleys Land Trust	Five Valleys Land Trust works to protect and preserve western Montana's natural legacy – our river corridors, wildlife habitat, agricultural lands and scenic open spaces. FVLT believes that protecting wildlife habitat, scenic open space, agricultural land, and river corridors benefits our community now and in the future. FVLT works in five valleys and 8 counties – Bitterroot; Upper Clarkfork; Blackfoot; south of Flathead Lake and the lower Clarkfork. FVLT's has defined the Deerledge Valley and Rock Creek as priorities.	Wendy Ninteman (406) 549-0755 Five Valleys Land Trust fvlt@montana.com www.fvlt.org
Flathead Land Trust	The Flathead Land Trust is dedicated to helping protect the wildlife, scenery, water quality, and traditional way of life in Montana's unique and spectacular Flathead Valley through preservation and stewardship of land. FLT works with local landowners, community members and organizations to protect the important scenic and working landscapes through voluntary conservation agreements. FLT has developed a land conservation plan for the Flathead Valley. The current focus is on the Flathead River to Lake Initiative, with an emphasis on bull trout, riparian habitats and wetlands.	Marilyn Wood (406) 752-8293 Flathead Land Trust flt@bigsky.net www.flatheadlandtrust.org
Gallatin Valley Land Trust	Gallatin Valley Land Trust is a non-profit membership organization	Stephen Johnson

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
	<p>dedicated to the conservation of open space, agricultural land, wildlife habitat, and the creation of public trails in southwestern Montana. GVLIT works with private landowners to conserve working farms and ranches, river corridors and critical wildlife habitat, scenic views, and urban open space in Gallatin, Park, Madison, Broadwater, and Jefferson counties.</p>	<p>(406) 587-8404 Gallatin Valley Land Trust stephen@gvlt.org http://gvlt.org/</p>
<p>Heart of the Rockies Initiative</p>	<p>Heart of the Rockies Initiative is a collaboration of 21 national, statewide, and local land trusts working along the Continental Divide in Alberta, British Columbia, Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming.</p>	<p>Michael Whitefield (208) 354-8939 Heart of the Rockies Initiative</p>
<p>Montana Land Reliance</p>	<p>The Montana Land Reliance is as an open space land trust, with an emphasis on agricultural lands. MLR has 684 easements, with 700,000 acres total under easement of which 125,000 acres are timber lands, and is working toward a goal of protecting 1,000,000 acres and 1,500 miles of stream by 2010.</p> <p>MLR prefers to work in “neighborhoods”. Once an easement has been established, it then works to add on the existing acreage around that easement. MLR is interested in doing more conservation in eastern Montana, including conservation projects associated with energy development and maintaining intact cottonwood forests in eastern Montana.</p>	<p>Rock Ringling (406) 443-7027 Montana Land Reliance info@mtlandreliance.org www.mtlandreliance.org</p>
<p>Prickly Pear Land Trust</p>	<p>The Prickly Pear Land Trust is an association of community-minded individuals committed to protecting the open space in Lewis and Clark, Broadwater and Jefferson Counties in Montana. Its mission is to protect the natural diversity and rural character of the Prickly Pear Valley and adjoining lands through voluntary and cooperative means. The Land Trust is dedicated to perpetuating the recreational, wildlife, scenic, agricultural and historic values of the land.</p>	<p>Andy Baur (406) 442-0490 Prickly Pear Land Trust andy@pricklypearlt.org http://pricklypearlt.org</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
The Conservation Fund	<p>The Conservation Fund is national environmental nonprofit dedicated to protecting America's most important landscapes and waterways for future generations. The Conservation Fund pioneers a balanced, non-advocacy, non-membership approach to conservation, one that blends environmental and economic goals and objectives. Working closely with private landowners, public agencies and local conservation groups, the Fund has protected more than 81,000 acres of wildlife habitat, working rangeland and historic sites in Montana.</p>	<p>Gates Watson (406) 541-8555 The Conservation Fund gwatson@conservationfund.org www.conservationfund.org/mountainwest/montana</p>
The Nature Conservancy	<p>The Nature Conservancy has worked with Montana landowners and communities since 1979 to conserve almost 500,000 acres of important rangeland and wildlife habitat. The Conservancy focuses its work on six broad landscapes. Staff are based within communities in or near these landscapes. The program based in Bozeman includes the Centennial, Upper Madison and Big Hole Valleys. The program based at the Matador Ranch in south Phillips County is focused on the northern prairies. The program based in Billings focuses on southeastern Montana and the Yellowstone River. The program based in Choteau is focused on the Rocky Mountain Front. The program based in Missoula is focused on the Blackfoot River Valley.</p> <p>TNC also acts as the steward for several natural preserves in Montana, including the Pine Butte Swamp Preserve; Comertown Pothole Prairie Preserve; the Dancing Prairie Preserve, near Eureka; the Safe Harbor Marsh Preserve, in the Flathead Basin; the Swan River Oxbow Preserve; Lindbergh Lake Pines Preserve in the Swan Valley; and, the South Fork Madison Preserve.</p>	<p>Bee Hall (406) 443-0303 The Nature Conservancy bernie_hall@tnc.org www.nature.org/herework/northamerica/states/montana/</p>
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	<p>The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation protects and enhances elk country, supports conservation education and restores wild elk herds. Working in cooperation with its Project Advisory Committee,</p>	<p>Mike Mueller (406) 523-4533 Rocky Mountain Elk</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
	<p>comprised of agency, university and industry personnel and volunteers, RMEF makes funds available for cost-shared projects related to research, management and conservation education. RMEF also participates in major land conservation projects. These projects are supported with special fund-raising initiatives.</p> <p>RMEF works with Pyramid Lumber to implement stewardship contracting on forested National Forest and BLM lands. RMEF has an established network to help communicate the conservation story.</p>	<p>Foundation mmueller@rmef.org www.rmef.org</p>
Trust for Public Land	<p>The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is a national, nonprofit, land conservation organization that conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, community gardens, historic sites, rural lands, and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come. Across the Northwest, TPL is protecting farms, ranches, and forests that support land-based livelihoods and rural ways of life. TPL conserves places of natural beauty that preserve wilderness for our children's children to explore and that support other species with whom we share the planet. TPL also is working with tribes to reacquire and conserve lands to protect natural resources and significant historical sites that are vital to the traditional land-based culture of Native Americans.</p>	<p>Eric Love (406) 522-7450 Trust for Public Land eric.love@tpl.org www.tpl.org/ tier2_rl.cfm?folder_ id=678&submit. x=5&submit. y=9&submit=Submit</p>
Vital Ground Foundation	<p>The Vital Ground Foundation is a wildlife conservation organization whose mission is to protect and restore North America's grizzly bear populations by conserving wildlife habitat. Operating as a land trust, Vital Ground focuses on protecting lands that grizzlies need to survive – not only for the great bears themselves, but for elk, moose, wolves, lynx, salmon, trout and all the other creatures that share their world. At present, Vital Ground's efforts are focused on the designated grizzly bear recovery zones in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming.</p>	<p>Gary Wolfe (406) 549-8650 Vital Ground info@vitalground.org www.vitalground.org/main. php</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>Montana Watershed Coordination Council</p>	<p>Programs Administered by Watershed Groups</p> <p>The Montana Watershed Coordination Council serves as a statewide coordination network for Montana’s natural resource agencies and private organizations and a forum for local watershed groups to help enhance, conserve, and protect natural resources and sustain the high quality of life in Montana for present and future generations. MWCC encourages local people to take a proactive, collaborative approach that will address natural resource issues and concerns. MWCC is a resource for equipping groups with basic organizational structure, functions and skills. The Watershed Coordination Council could be a forum to help promote CFWCS.</p>	<p>Jennifer Boyer (406) 587-7331 Sonoran Institute jboyer@sonoran.org</p> <p>Susan Higgins (406) 994-1772 Montana State University shiggins@montana.edu</p> <p>http://watersheds.montana.edu/default.asp</p>
<p>Beaverhead River Watershed Committee</p>	<p>The Beaverhead Watershed Committee was formed to seek an understanding of the watershed – how it functions and supports the human communities dependent on it – and to build agreement on watershed planning issues among stakeholders with diverse viewpoints.</p>	<p>406-683-2713 jnhoyrup@bmt.net</p> <p>http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=39</p>
<p>Big Hole Watershed Committee</p>	<p>The Big Hole Watershed Committee was established in 1995 to address resource and community concerns in the Big Hole Watershed. The BHWC was formed in response to concerns about dewatering. The BHWC is a consensus driven, multi-stakeholder entity that works closely with other conservation organizations, local, state and federal agencies on watershed restoration and management plans.</p> <p>BHWC is involved in several grant funded projects for the purpose of restoration, These include fencing, headgates, diversions, channel</p>	<p>Noorjahan Parwana Big Hole Watershed Committee (406) 782-3682 nparwana@bhwc.org</p> <p>http://bhwc.org/Drought%20Management%20intro.htm</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Big Muddy Creek	<p>restoration, stockwater wells, project design, irrigation infrastructure, willow plantings, etc.</p> <p>This program was developed to address TMDL concerns, along with the need for resource information to document resource conditions, and the desire for a long-term planning tool for Big Muddy Creek, a third order tributary of the Missouri River located in Daniels, Roosevelt, Sheridan Counties.</p>	<p>Mickey McCall (406) 765-1801 Sheridan Conservation District mickey.mccall@mt.nacdn.net http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=36</p>
Big Spring Creek Watershed Committee	<p>The project was begun by 7th Grade Science Students for Lewistown Junior High, in cooperation with state and local officials. A major stream restoration project plan was started in the early 1990's. Water was turned into the new stream bed on 9/11/2000. Trails and new fishing sites were part of the restoration project.</p>	<p>Steve Paulson (406) 538-5419 Lewistown Junior High School spaulson@lewistown.k12.mt.us</p>
Bitter Root Water Forum	<p>The Bitter Root Water Forum considers the entire Bitterroot River drainage, from its headwaters in the Sapphire Mountains to the east and Bitterroot Mountains to the west, to the confluence with the Clark Fork River near Missoula, the mainstem and all tributaries, as our watershed address. To date, there is a greater emphasis placed upon those lands that lie within Ravalli County.</p> <p>The Forum has three general objectives that guide on-the-ground initiatives: 1) understand the basic hydrologic cycle of the Bitterroot River Basin (monitoring); 2) identify the water issues in the basin and facilitate communication among all interested parties (education); and,</p>	<p>Laurie Riley (406) 375-2272 Bitter Root Water Forum brwaterforum@bitterroot.net http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=3</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
	<p>3) search for and implement solutions to water quality and quantity problems to achieve a balance between resources and users (policy and implementation).</p>	
<p>Blackfoot Challenge</p>	<p>The Mission of The Blackfoot Challenge is to coordinate efforts that will enhance, conserve and protect the natural resources and rural lifestyles of the Blackfoot River Valley for present and future generations. Three words guide the Blackfoot Challenge. Here, private landowners take the lead and public agencies follow in a shared goal-to keep large landscapes intact and rural lifestyles vital. The Blackfoot Challenge is a landowner-based group that coordinates management of the Blackfoot River, its tributaries, and adjacent lands. It is organized locally and known nationally as a model for preserving the rural character and natural beauty of a watershed.</p> <p>The Blackfoot Challenge focuses on improving impaired streams; improving diminished water quality; increasing flows in dewatered streams; and, improving fisheries in the Blackfoot Watershed. It operates with a simple action plan that responds to shared priorities.</p>	<p>Gary Burnett (406) 793-3900 Blackfoot Challenge info@blackfootchallenge.org</p>
<p>Blue Water Task Force</p>	<p>The Blue Water Task Force is a locally-led non-profit watershed group headquartered along the famous Gallatin River in Big Sky, Montana. Its mission is to protect and preserve the health of the Gallatin River Watershed. The Task Force operates primarily in the Upper Watershed, covering the mountainous terrain upstream of the Gallatin Valley.</p>	<p>Kristin Gardner (406) 993-2519 Blue Water Task Force kristin@bluewatertaskforce.org www.bluewatertaskforce.org</p>
<p>Boulder River Watershed Association</p>	<p>The Boulder River Watershed Association is a group of landowners that reside within the drainage basin of the Boulder River working to maintain and/or improve the health of their land and water resources.</p>	<p>Dan Rostad (406)932-5160; Ext. 106 Boulder River Watershed</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
	<p>The group was formed with the vision of: 1- identifying/researching resource issues and concerns within the watershed; 2- helping willing landowners/land managers to plan and implement innovative solutions; and 3- educating the general public about the efforts of landowners in the valley to care for the resources that provide for their way of life.</p>	<p>Association dan.rostad@mt.nacdnet.net http://mwcc.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=125</p>
<p>Bozeman Watershed Council</p>	<p>The Bozeman Watershed Council is focused on all of the tributaries of the East Gallatin River.</p>	<p>John Montagne (406) 587-2406 Bozeman Watershed Council montagne@mcn.net Cindi Crayton (406) 585-2789 iwc@integratedweedcontrol.com http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=44</p>
<p>Clarkfork Watershed Education Program</p>	<p>Using the upper Clark Fork basin as an outdoor laboratory and professional scientists as instructors, CFWEP works with students and their teachers to foster environmental stewardship and science-based decision-making. This education program is located within the Clark Fork Basin Superfund area. CFWEP reaches middle and high schools in communities along the mainstem of the Clark Fork River and all tributaries above Milltown dam, including the Rock Creek, Flint Creek, Big Blackfoot, and Little Blackfoot Rivers.</p>	<p>Colleen Elliott (406) 496-4143 Montana Tech celliott@mtech.edu www.cfwep.org</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>Flathead Basin Commission</p>	<p>The Flathead Basin Commission was established in 1983 by the Montana Legislature to monitor and protect the water quality of the basin. The mission of the Flathead Basin Commission is to protect the existing high quality of the Flathead Lake aquatic environment; the waters that flow into, out of, or are tributary to the lake; and, the natural resources and environment of the Flathead Basin.</p>	<p>Mark Holston (406)752-0081 Flathead Basin Commission fbc@mt.gov www.flatheadbasin.commission.org</p>
<p>Flathead Lakers</p>	<p>The Flathead Lakers provide leadership in the protection of Flathead Lake and its tributaries through our Stewardship Program. The group encourages individual and collective stewardship and a watershed approach to resource management, land use planning, and water quality protection. The Critical Lands Project is a collaborative project to identify, protect and restore lands and waters critical to water quality and is the centerpiece of the Flathead Lakers' stewardship program.</p>	<p>Constanza von der Pahlen Flathead Lakers (406) 883-1341 constanza@flatheadlakers.org www.flatheadlakers.org</p>
<p>Greater Gallatin Watershed Council</p>	<p>The mission of the Greater Gallatin Watershed Council is to promote conservation and enhancement of our water resources while supporting the traditions of community, agriculture and recreation. The Greater Gallatin Watershed Council serves as an umbrella organization to provide technical and administrative assistance to existing and newly formed groups that focus on specific areas within the watershed.</p>	<p>Tammy Crone (406) 582-3145 Greater Gallatin Watershed Council tammy.crone@gallatin.mt.gov www.greatergallatin.org</p>
<p>Haskill Basin Watershed Council</p>	<p>The Haskill Basin Watershed Council has been in existence since June of 2000. The mission of the Haskill Basin Watershed Council is to maintain and enhance the chemical, biological and physical integrity of Haskill Creek by a voluntary and cooperative effort. Haskill Creek is a tributary to the Whitefish River.</p>	<p>Patti Mason (406) 752-4220 Flathead Conservation District fcd3@centurytel.net http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=12</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>Jefferson River Watershed Council</p>	<p>The mission of the Jefferson River Watershed Council is to coordinate efforts, through a spirit of community cooperation and sharing, that will enhance, conserve, and protect the natural resources, quality of life, and economic vitality of the Jefferson River watershed. The group is pursuing that mission by developing a drought management plan, improving communication among water users and natural resource managers in the Jefferson, Beaverhead and Ruby Valley watersheds, facilitating a coordinated approach to problem solving, providing educational opportunities for basin residents, supporting cooperative research projects, supporting floodplain planning, and promoting opportunities to enhance the health of wild fisheries in the Jefferson River and its tributaries.</p>	<p>Jeff Erickson and Mary Vandenbosch Jefferson River Watershed Council (406) 449-3229 Headwaters@q.com www.jeffersonriverwc.org</p>
<p>Kootenai River Network</p>	<p>The Kootenai River network (KRN) is a cooperative international partnership of individuals, agencies, and diverse citizen groups dedicated to the utilization, restoration, promotion, and protection of water resources in the Kootenai River watershed. The primary purpose of the Kootenai River Network is to foster communication and implement collaborative processes among private and public interests in the watershed. These cooperative programs lead to improved resource management practices and the restoration of water quality and aquatic resources in the basin. We seek to empower local citizens and groups from two states, one province, two countries and affected tribal nations to collaborate in natural resource management in the basin.</p>	<p>Kootenai River Network (406) 295-5834 director@kootenairivernetwork.org www.kootenairivernetwork.org</p>
<p>Little Missouri Watershed</p>	<p>The Carter County Conservation District has established and leads a formal stream monitoring program that is done annually. The District coordinates the stream monitoring with DEQ and NRCS.</p>	<p>Carter County Conservation District (406)775-6355 ext. 101 gbruski@mt.nrcs.usda.gov http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=4</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Lolo Watershed Group	<p>The mission of the Lolo Watershed Group is to understand and conserve the unique characteristics of the Lolo Creek Watershed, including its wildlife, and fisheries, scenic and rural character, local agriculture, and recreational opportunities while supporting private property rights. Detailed work plans for the future include streambank stabilization work, help local land owners control noxious weeds, installation of fish screens on irrigation diversions, and offer local people a voice on issues facing our watershed.</p>	<p>Wendy Sturgis (406) 273-2446 Lolo Watershed Group wendysturgis@bresnan.net http://watersheds. montana.edu/groups/ details.asp?groupID=73</p>
Lower Clarkfork Watershed Councils	<p>There are currently seven active watershed councils in the lower Clark Fork, including Elk, Prospect, Rock, Whitepine, Trout, and Pilgrim Creeks and Bull River. In an effort to streamline the process for administering and managing these seven watershed councils, a new “umbrella” watershed council has been recently formed. The formation of this group will benefit all lower Clark Fork watersheds by expanding funding opportunities and maximizing administrative efficiency.</p>	<p>Jean Dunn (406)827-4833 Green Mountain Conservation District gmcd@blackfoot.net http://watersheds. montana.edu/groups/ details.asp?groupID=15</p>
Lower Ten Mile Watershed Group	<p>The mission of the Lower Ten Mile Watershed Ggroup is to protect, improve, and maintain the Tenmile watershed and to promote the voluntary and cooperative resource management of the lower Tenmile Creek watershed in Lewis and Clark County. The three goals for the organization are 1) Enhance or maintain water quality and quantity within the basin with consideration of physical,chemical, and biological parameters; 2) Promote action plans that benefit drought management, flood management, and overall watershed health; and, 3) Provide educational opportunities for both the public and stakeholders regarding watershed issues.</p>	<p>Jim Wilbur (406) 457-8927 jwilbur@co.lewis-clark. mt.us www.co.lewis-clark.mt.us/ index.php?id=716</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>Madison Valley Ranchlands Group</p>	<p>The Madison Valley Ranchlands Group works to keep the ranching way of life in the Madison Valley Area. The Group accomplishes this by developing ways to enhance the economic viability of family ranches; preserving traditional rural community and family ranch values; ensuring productive agriculture through the protection of private property rights and open space, as well as maintaining healthy grasslands, wildlife habitat, and watersheds; working cooperatively with groups, agencies, and individuals who share our goals and commitment to the land.</p>	<p>Lane Adamson (406) 682-3259 Madison Valley Ranchlands Group mvranch@3rivers.net www.madisonvalleyranchlands.org</p>
<p>Marias River Watershed</p>	<p>The Marias River Watershed is a collection of landowners, citizen groups, individuals, businesses, industry and tribes with a common goal of protecting and improving the land and resources of the Marias River. The Watershed includes seven conservation districts — Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Hill, Pondera, Chouteau, and Big Sandy, plus two Indian reservations—the Blackfeet and Rocky Boy, that have taken a proactive approach in processing a watershed plan for the Marias River drainage.</p>	<p>Roger Zentzis (406) 292-3594 Marias River Watershed rzentzis@mariasriver.org www.mariasriver.com</p>
<p>Missouri River Conservation Districts Council</p>	<p>The mission of the Missouri River Conservation Districts Council is to represent natural resource and environmental interests on the Missouri River. This Council believes the conservation of the river and its corridor and the sustainability of its various uses can best be accomplished through grassroots collaboration, education, incentives, and voluntary action. It is the goal of the Missouri River Conservation Districts Council to provide leadership, assistance, and guidance to conservation districts along the Missouri River Corridor in order to present a unified front and collective voice when addressing natural resource issues, opportunities, and challenges and to become a forum for Missouri River stakeholders to share perspectives, solve problems, and exchange information on Missouri River resource management.</p> <p>In anticipation of the passage and pursuant to the authority of the</p>	<p>Vicki Marquis (406) 468-0056 Missouri River Cons. Dist. Council mrcdc@missouririvercouncil.info www.missouririvercouncil.info</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
	<p>Water Resources Development Act of 2007, the Council is convening the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee is convened under the authority of the or as it may be amended. This Committee will provide a collaborative forum to develop a shared vision and a comprehensive plan to help guide the prioritization, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and adaptation of recovery actions in the upper Missouri River basin.</p>	
<p>Mosby Musselshell Watershed Group</p>	<p>The Mosby Musselshell Watershed Group was formed in January, 2005 and includes about 32 producers plus some small landowners. It includes about 100 river miles and extends from the south Petroleum County line, north to the Fort Peck Reservoir.</p>	<p>Diane Ahlgren (406)429-6851 Mosby Musselshell Watershed Group diane.ahlgren@mt.nacdn.net http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=121</p>
<p>Rancher's Stewardship Alliance</p>	<p>The mission of the Ranchers Stewardship Alliance is to promote the ecological, social and economic conditions that will sustain the biodiversity and integrity of America's northern mixed-grass prairie for present and future generations.</p>	<p>Lynda Poole (406)658-2504 Ranchers Stewardship Alliance info@ranchersstewardshipalliance.org www.ranchersstewardshipalliance.org/index.asp</p>
<p>Redwater River Watershed Group</p>	<p>The McCone Conservation District and local landowners with the help of DEQ, NRCS and several other agencies are assessing the impaired</p>	<p>Jeanne Kirkegard (406)485-2744</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
	streams in McCone County.	McCone Conservation District http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=35
Ruby River Watershed Council	The charge of the Ruby Watershed Council is the general watershed health of the Ruby Valley. The Council looks at the entire watershed before bringing a program in place. Our mission is to: "Assist Family Agricultural Operations by Improving Production, and Enhancing and Protecting Natural Resources." The Ruby Watershed Council (RWC) was created and empowered by the Ruby valley Conservation District for the purpose of advising the District with regard to 1) Coordination of watershed planning; 2) Education and Outreach; 3) Identification of projects; 4) Acquisition of funding to implement plans and projects; and, 5) Community collaboration to share information, education and concerns for consideration.	Ann Schwend (406) 842-5741 ext. 106 Ruby Watershed Council rwc@rvcd.org www.rvcd.org
Sage Creek Watershed Alliance	The Sage Creek Watershed Alliance (SCWA) was formed as a result of residents' increasing alarm over the quality of the water in Sage Creek (Liberty and Hill Counties). The primary environmental, agricultural and community concern of the Alliance is salinization of cultivated cropland, natural drainageways and surface waters as a result of excess shallow saline groundwater moving to the surface.	Marlene Moon (406) 759-5778 ext. 102 Liberty County Conservation District marlene-moon@mt.nacdn.net http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=23
Southern Crazy Mountain Watershed Group	The Southern Crazy Mountain Watershed is a collection of landowners and citizens of the community with a common goal of protecting	Jay Bailey (406)222-2899

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
	<p>and improving the land, water, and resources of the watershed. The purpose of the Group is 1) to educate landowners and the public on natural resource issues; 2) to inventory and document changes in the resource base; 3) to develop solutions to problems, which will protect agriculture and not damage but strive to improve the natural resources within the area; 4) to work with Federal, State, and County agencies to coordinate watershed improvement activities in a feasible and economical manner; 5) to work with agencies and other organizations to help secure funding to improve the natural resources in the watershed area; and, 6) to work with neighboring Groups on common problems in bordering and overlapping areas.</p>	<p>Park Conservation District http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=25 www.parkcd.org/scmwg.html</p>
<p>Sun River Watershed Committee</p>	<p>The Sun River Watershed Committee is focused on water quality, water quantity, noxious weed management and development issues within the watershed. The Committee is concerned addresses issues related to wildlife habitat; stream stabilization; sediment controls from Willow Creek and Gibson Reservoirs; fire management relative to sedimentation; erosion problems; Elk Creek drainage habitat and stream flow; and, potential reservoirs re-regulation to conserve water.</p>	<p>Allan Rollo (406) 727-4437 Sun River Watershed Committee arollo@mcn.net http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=27</p>
<p>Swan Ecosystem Center</p>	<p>Swan Ecosystem Center (SEC) is a nonprofit community group in the Swan Valley of northwestern Montana. People with diverse perspectives learn about the ecosystem and participate in land management decisions on public and private land. Its mission reflects that the citizens of Swan Valley, Montana, have a self-imposed sense of responsibility to maintain a strong, vital community, one involved in setting its own destiny through partnerships that encourage sustainable use and care of public and private lands. SEC was formed because its people here care deeply about the land. They want to protect the environment and continue making a living. Residents also have intimate knowledge of the area ecosystem.</p>	<p>Anne Dahl (406)754-3137 Swan Ecosystem Center swanec@blackfoot.net www.swanecosystemcenter.com</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>Teton River Watershed Group</p>	<p>The Teton River Watershed Group is concerned about noxious weeds, water quality and water quantity in the Teton River drainage in Choteau and Teton Counties.</p>	<p>Allan Rollo (406) 727-4437 Teton River Watershed Group arollo@mcn.net http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=28</p>
<p>Tri-State Water Quality Council</p>	<p>The non-profit Tri-State Water Quality Council is a successful partnership of diverse community interests—including citizens, business, industry, tribes, government, and environmental groups—working together to improve and protect water quality throughout the 26,000 square mile Clark Fork-Pend Oreille watershed.</p>	<p>Ruth Watkins (208) 265-9092 Tri-State Water Quality Council tristatecouncil@sandpoint.net www.tristatecouncil.org/index.html</p>
<p>Upper Clark Fork River Basin Steering Committee</p>	<p>The Upper Clark Fork River Basin Steering Committee was formed to establish a collaborative watershed based planning effort to address the water reservation process in the Clark Fork. Subsequently, the 1991 Montana Legislature approved legislation to implement a voluntarily negotiated agreement by Upper Clark Fork water users and manager and formally recognized the Steering Committee as a watershed group. Thereafter, the group developed a water basin management plan, several provisions of which have been implemented through additional legislation. The group continues to address issues, primarily related to water and policy, in the watershed.</p>	<p>Gerald Mueller (406) 543-0026 Upper Clark Fork River Basin Steering Committee gmueller@in-tch.com http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=18</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>Upper Shields Watershed Association</p>	<p>The Upper Shields River Watershed Association is a collection of land owners and citizens of the community that share the vision that ranching, as a way of life, can and must be preserved. This group has been drawn together for the purpose of protecting and improving the land, water, and the resources of the land since these represent the very foundation of ranching. The purpose of the Association is 1) to educate landowners and the public on natural resource issues; 2) to inventory and document changes in the resource base; 3) to develop solutions to problems, which will protect agriculture while positively improving natural resources within the area; 4) to work with Federal, State, and County agencies to coordinate watershed improvement activities in a feasible and economical manner; and, 5) to work with agencies to help secure funding to improve the natural resources in the watershed area.</p> <p>Watershed members want to preserve and enhance Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout populations throughout the Shields Watershed while maintaining flexibility in ranch management decisions. Although the Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout is a highly visible species, the Watershed members also wish to improve the habitat throughout the watershed area for other wildlife and fish species that inhabit this area.</p>	<p>Alan Johnstone (406) 578-2186 Park Conservation District johnstoneranch@hughes.net</p> <p>http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=30</p> <p>www.parked.org/uswa.html</p>
<p>Upper Tenmile Steering Group</p>	<p>The Upper Tenmile Steering Group was formed in March 1996 to address issues related to water quality and water quantity in the Tenmile Creek drainage, Lewis & Clark County. Water quality in the drainage is affected by the presence of nine abandoned mines.</p>	<p>Jesse Aber (406) 444-6628 DNRC Water Resources Division jaber@mt.gov</p> <p>http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=29</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Upper Yellowstone Basin	<p>The Upper Yellowstone Watershed Basin is a collection of people who appreciate, or support, or participate in Agricultural endeavors on any scale. The group believes that agriculture involvement, as it is lived out by diverse individuals and operations, can and must be enhanced, preserved, and valued now and for posterity. The group proposes to safeguard its agriculture environment by protecting, improving, developing, harvesting, and efficiently using land, water, timber, and rangeland.</p> <p>The purpose of the Watershed is 1) to educate landowners and the public on issues facing Agriculture; 2) to inventory and document changes in the resource base; 3) to develop solutions to problems, which will protect agriculture while positively improving natural resources within the area; 4) to work with Federal, State, and County agencies to coordinate Watershed improvement activities in a feasible and economical manner; and, 5) to work with agencies to help secure funding to improve the natural resources in the Watershed area.</p> <p>The key natural resource issues of concern for the Upper Yellowstone Watershed Basin are; stream stabilization, weeds, rangeland, irrigation, water quality and endangered/threatened species.</p>	<p>Marty Malone (406) 222-4156 Upper Yellowstone Watershed Basin mmalone@montana.edu http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=66 http://parkcd.org/uywb.html</p>
Yellowstone River Conservation District Council	<p>The Yellowstone River Conservation District Council (YRCDC) addresses concerns along the entire main stem of the Yellowstone River. The Council is made up of representatives from twelve conservation districts bordering the main stem of the Yellowstone River and one representative from the Montana Association of Conservation Districts.</p> <p>The Council's purpose is to provide local leadership, assistance, and guidance for the wise use and conservation of the Yellowstone River's natural resources. This purpose is founded on three fundamental precepts: 1) The need for scientific information on which to base</p>	<p>Nicole McClain (406) 223-5702 Yellowstone River CD Coordination Council NmcClain@mt.gov http://watersheds.montana.edu/groups/details.asp?groupID=17</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
	<p>management decisions; 2) The need for broad-based local, regional, and national input; and, 3) The need for technical and financial assistance to address sustainable use issues on the Yellowstone River. The Council is currently focusing on four areas in which conservation districts traditionally work: 1) Bank stabilization (310 permitting issues); 2) Irrigation water impacts, availability, and water reservations; 3) Livestock, grazing, and farming issues; and, 4) Water quality and stream impairment.</p>	<p>http://dnrc.mt.gov/caridd/yellowstonerivercouncil/default.asp#</p>
	<p>Programs Administered by Other Non-Governmental Organizations</p>	
<p>American Bird Conservancy</p>	<p>The American Bird Conservancy is partnered with the Intermountain West Joint Venture to facilitate bird conservation in bird conservation region 10, which includes all of western Montana. The core vision of the joint ventures is to empower partnerships at the ground level. ABC established the Important Bird Area Program (IBA). Within these areas, conservation is designed to identify priority project areas based on priority habitats, priority bird species, threats and opportunities. The goal of the IBA program is not just to recognize the sites as important, but to mobilize the resources needed to protect them.</p>	<p>Dan Casey (406) 756-2681 American Bird Conservancy dcasey@abcbirds.org www.abcbirds.org</p>
<p>American Prairie Foundation</p>	<p>The American Prairie Foundation is devoted to creating a prairie-based wildlife reserve that will protect a unique natural habitat, provide lasting economic benefits and improve public access to the prairie landscape. APF is partnered with the World Wildlife Fund, who provides the science, in prairie restoration. Currently, APF is focused on lands contiguous with the Charles M. Wildlife Refuge, primarily in south Phillips County. It's eventual goal is to establish a 3 million contiguous acre reserve, comprised of a</p>	<p>Dick Dolan (406) 585-4600 American Prairie Foundation dick@americanprairie.org www.americanprairie.org</p>

AGENCY/PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
American Wildlands	<p>combination of federal and private lands, which are managed for prairie wildlife species first. Lands would be accessible to the public for wildlife viewing and hunting.</p> <p>Current projects include restoration of prairie dogs and bison; restoration of native vegetation; restoration of prairie streams; and, baseline studies of native vegetation and native fish.</p> <p>American Wildlands is working to develop collaborative initiatives to protect corridors that are regionally important. American Wildlands priority is the area between the GYA and the Salmon/Selway (190 south to the Centennials) and the Cabinet/Purcells to the Northern Continental Divide. The Priority Lands Assessment is a series of interviews with land managers to identify the most important habitats and movement corridors within that area.</p> <p>American Wildlands also has Safe Passages program, related to highways and transportation corridors; promoting collaborative efforts to reduce collisions with wildlife and improve safety; doing assessments; etc.</p>	<p>Tony Povilitis (406) 586-8175 American Wildlands tpovilitis@wildlands.org www.wildlands.org</p>
Avista Corporation	<p>The new Clark Fork Project License, including both the Noxon Rapids and Cabinet Gorge hydroelectric developments, is the result of the successful efforts of representatives from nearly 40 organizations, who worked together for several years to create the Clark Fork Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement, contains 26 protection, mitigation and enhancement (PM&E) measures addressing impacts of continued operation of the project. The agreement also adopts the term "Living License," a concept that promotes ongoing problem solving through adaptive management. The license was approved in 2001 and is valid through 2046. The agreement includes a Montana tributary acquisition and enhancement fund (\$500,000/year) that is specific to Montana and a terrestrial habitat acquisition and</p>	<p>Tim Swant (406) 847-1282 Avista Corporation Tim.Swant@avistacorp.com www.avistautilities.com/ resources/hydro/clarkfork</p>

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	<p>enhancement fund (\$200,000/year) and a native salmonid restoration fund (\$1 million/year) that support projects in both Montana and Idaho. Generally, projects are limited to the area affected by the operation of the dams. However, if there are compelling reasons, projects beyond those limits may be approved. There are 27 signatories to the agreement, including state, federal and tribal governments and NGO's. A collaborative process is used to approve projects.</p>	
<p>Big Hole River Foundation</p>	<p>The mission of the Big Hole River Foundation is to understand, preserve, and enhance the free flowing character of the Big Hole River and to protect its watershed, culture, community and excellent wild trout fishery. The Foundation is working to develop science-based conservation strategies that will protect this magnificent resource, and enhance critical habitat for native trout, grayling, and a multitude of other species.</p> <p>The Foundation's projects include Education and Outreach; Technical Guidance; small restoration projects; monitoring of benthic macro-invertebrates in support of Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances; and, partnerships with other organizations to assist in the acquisition of conservation easements and to assist with wetlands mapping. The Foundation also participates in other management efforts in the basin, including river recreation, land use planning, drought management, water quality and weed management.</p>	<p>Mike Bias (866) 533-2473 Big Hole River Foundation mikebias@3riversdbs.net www.bhrf.org</p>
<p>Boone & Crockett Club</p>	<p>Permanent protection of critical wildlife habitat is a major focus of the Boone and Crockett Club's Habitat Partnerships program. The focus of this program is land conservation facilitated by conservation easements, land donations, and land exchanges that result in permanently protected wildlife habitat.</p> <p>The Boone and Crockett Conservation Education Program strives</p>	<p>William Demmer (517) 321-3600 Boone & Crockett Club bdemmer@demmercorp.com www.boone-crockett.org</p>

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	to offer perspectives that will foster shared use of natural resources, conservation, sustainable development, and stewardship of the land to build a common ground for sustaining healthy ecosystems.	
<p>Corporation for the Northern Rockies</p>	<p>The Corporation for the Northern Rockies advances sustainable choices that enhance economic opportunities and preserve Western lands and quality of life. CNR has trained producers in sustainable agriculture and markets Montana-grown products that result from sustainable agriculture and production methods that protect open space, promote habitat conservation and protect water quality.</p> <p>CNR has published a <i>Welcome to the West Guide</i> helps newcomers channel their affection for wildlife and open space into vacation and real estate choices that protect nature.</p>	<p>Lil Erickson (406) 222-0730 Corporation for the Northern Rockies info@northrock.org www.northrock.org</p>
<p>Defenders of Wildlife</p>	<p>Defenders of Wildlife promotes progressive land-use strategies on federal state and private lands that safeguard key habitats such as wetlands, deserts, forests and grasslands from development and degradation. Habitat projects in Montana focus on prairie habitats, with an emphasis on bison restoration, swift fox reintroductions, protection of prairie dog colonies and support for black-footed ferret reintroductions. Current projects focus on Tribal lands. Defenders is working with the Blackfeet, Ft. Belknap, Ft. Peck, Northern Cheyenne and the Crow.</p>	<p>Minette Glaser (406) 549-4103 Defenders of Wildlife mglaser@defenders.org Jonathon Proctor (303) 825-0918 Defenders of Wildlife jproctor@defenders.org www.defenders.org/ programs_and_policy/ habitat_conservation/ index.php</p>
<p>Ducks Unlimited</p>	<p>Ducks Unlimited's habitat interests in Montana include wetland protection and restoration. DU functions as a "general contractor",</p>	<p>Bob Sanders (406) 492-2002</p>

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	<p>responsible for the front end administrative work, related to wetland conservation. Its primary focus in Montana is on the hi-line. DU delivers conservation easements for USFWS.</p> <p>DU administers its Revolving Land Acquisition Program – the program acquires properties for protection and restoration and then re-sells the properties to maintain funds for repeating the process with other properties.</p>	<p>Ducks Unlimited rsanders@ducks.org www.ducks.org</p>
<p>Greater Yellowstone Coalition</p>	<p>The Greater Yellowstone Coalition is a nationally known advocate for the idea that ecosystem level sustainability should guide the management of the region's public and private lands. It's mission is: <i>People protecting the lands, waters, and wildlife of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, now and for future generations.</i> GYC is involved in advocacy and education. GYC is involved in local working groups in the Madison and Centennial Valleys.</p>	<p>Craig Kenworthy (406) 556-2803 Greater Yellowstone Coalition ckenworthy@greateryellowstone.org www.greateryellowstone.org</p>
<p>Montana Association of Conservation Districts</p>	<p>Montana's 58 conservation districts (CDs) utilize locally-led and largely non-regulatory approaches to successfully address general natural resource issues. CDs have a decades-long history of conserving our state's resources by helping local people match their needs with technical and financial resources, thereby getting good conservation practices on the ground to the benefit of all Montanans.</p> <p>CD's are the conduit for DNRC grants and loans. They also influence the distribution of dollars through the Farm Bill. MACD can help build bridges with the landowners; help do catch-up with landowners. But, it is important to know that CD Supervisors have an interest in taking care of the landowners. Landowners want sensible approaches, sustainable approaches and approaches that will work within their operation. Solutions have to work in the long run.</p>	<p>Sarah Carlson (406) 443-5711 Montana Association of Conservation Districts mail@macdnet.org www.macdnet.org</p>

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<p>Montana Association of Counties</p>	<p>Montana Association of Counties (MACo) enhances the public service mission of counties by promoting integrity and providing proactive leadership while acknowledging and respecting Montana's diversity. There are opportunities to with MACO committees, especially the Public lands, Agriculture or Land Use Committees, to promote communication.</p>	<p>Sheryl Wood (406) 444-4360 Montana Association of Counties swood@maco.cog.mt.us http://maco.cog.mt.us/</p>
<p>Montana Audubon</p>	<p>Montana Audubon promotes appreciation, knowledge and conservation of native birds, other wildlife, and their habitats. Montana Audubon has identified Important Bird Areas in Montana. This information is available for planning purposes. Local Audubon chapters provide a resource for citizen science and assistance with monitoring; help to identify important bird areas; help to rally political support; and participate in local planning efforts. Montana Audubon is interested in helping to support a cooperatively funded non-game bird coordinator for Montana.</p>	<p>Janet Ellis (406) 443-3949 Montana Audubon mtaudubon@montana.com http://mtaudubon.org/</p>
<p>Montana Cattlemen's Association</p>	<p>The Montana Cattlemen's Association's Mission is: To actively participate with Montana cattle producers to protect our industry's future; To address market interests, serve to support Montana's environmental, cultural and historical heritage, and protect the interests of Montana cattle producers in international markets and trade issues; and, The Montana Cattlemen's Association shall be true environmentalists in protecting and advancing their environmental positions in water rights, mineral rights and natural resources.</p>	<p>Jeremy Seidlitz (406) 259-5433 Montana Cattlemen's Association mca@montanacattlemen.org www.montanacattlemen.org</p>
<p>Montana Coal Council</p>	<p>The Montana Coal Council is a nonprofit industry association whose membership includes all major coal mine operators, holders of Montana coal reserves, those who ship the coal, utilities who use the coal, and numerous suppliers and businesses directly and indirectly involved in the coal industry.</p>	<p>Bud Clinch (406) 442-6223 Montana Coal Council mtcoal@aol.com http://montanacoalcouncil.com/index.html</p>

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<p>Montana Farm Bureau Federation</p>	<p>The mission of the Montana Farm Bureau Federation is to correlate and strengthen the member county Farm Bureaus; support the free enterprise system and protect individual freedom and opportunity; promote, protect and represent the business, economic, social and educational interests of farmer/rancher members and their communities; and to enhance the agricultural industry in Montana.</p> <p>The Farm Bureau believes that Landowners have an important role in conservation. Landowners control the land, feed the wildlife and keep the land in open space. Conservation happens on private land because the individual landowner believes that it is the correct thing to do.</p>	<p>John Youngberg (406) 587-3153 Montana Farm Bureau Federation johny@mtbf.org http://mtbf.org/preview.s3.agtown.com/controller/home?_load=default</p>
<p>Montana Petroleum Association</p>	<p>The Montana Petroleum Association, Inc. is a voluntary, non-profit trade association, whose members include oil and natural gas producers, gathering and pipeline companies, petroleum refineries and service providers and consultants. MPA's government affairs program strives to maintain a positive business climate for the petroleum industry in Montana, and its education program fosters public awareness of the industry's contributions to the state and nation.</p>	<p>David Galt (406) 442-7582 Montana Petroleum Association mpa@montanapetroleum.org www.montanapetroleum.org/index.php?pr=Home_Page</p>
<p>Montana Stockgrowers Association</p>	<p>The Montana Stockgrower's Association is one of the sponsors of the Environmental Stewardship Award Program. The goal of this program is to acknowledge producers who go the extra mile when it comes to preserving and enhancing the resources on their land. While the program highlights industry stewardship, it also provides cattlemen with examples and ideas which may be useful on their own farms and ranching operations.</p> <p>The MSGA is a cooperator in the Undaunted Stewardship Program, a voluntary program that certifies individual ranchers whose operations incorporate stewardship principles in their ranch planning, grazing management and monitoring. MSGA assists with education and outreach.</p>	<p>Jay Bodner (406) 442-3420 Montana Stockgrower's Association jay@mtbeef.org www.mtbeef.org</p>

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<p>Montana Water Trust</p>	<p>The Montana Water Trust is a private, nonprofit organization that works cooperatively with farmers, ranchers, and other landowners to develop incentive based agreements that benefit landowners, streamflows and communities. The mission of the Montana Water Trust is to partner with landowners to keep our celebrated streams alive and flowing. The Montana Water Trust works cooperatively with water rights holders, especially senior water right holders, securing water rights for the purpose of maintaining in-stream flows.</p> <p>The Montana Water Trust can provide expertise, capacity building; and, an interest to protect in-stream flows in areas where habitat protection/restoration projects already are in place.</p>	<p>Rankin Holmes (406) 721-0476 Montana Water Trust info@montanawatertrust.org http://www.montanawatertrust.org/</p>
<p>Montana Wildlife Federation</p>	<p>The Montana Wildlife Federation is an organization of conservation minded people who share a mission to protect and enhance Montana's public wildlife, lands, waters, and fair chase hunting and fishing heritage.</p> <p>MWF serves as a co-chair of the Steering Committee for the Montana Teaming with Wildlife Coalition, a coalition comprised of organizations and businesses working together to support the Montana Wildlife Action Plan and the State Wildlife Grant Program. In cooperation with the Coalition, MWF works with its affiliates and other volunteers to advocate for the State Wildlife Grant Program and facilitate implementation on the ground.</p>	<p>Rich Day (406) 494-8661 Montana Wildlife Federation rday@mtwfw.org www.montanawildlife.com http://statewildlife.nwfw.org/MT/</p>
<p>Montana Wood Products Association</p>	<p>The Montana Wood Products Association is a voluntary nonprofit association whose purpose is to promote wise long-term management of Montana's forests, furnish opportunities for open discussion and lawful interchange of information concerning all facets of the wood products industry and accumulate and disseminate information regarding the wood products industry in order to foster the best interests of the industry and the public.</p>	<p>Ellen Engstedt (406) 443-1566 Montana Wood Products Association MWPA@MontanaForests.com www.montaneforests.com</p>

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National Center for Appropriate Technology	The National Center for Appropriate Technology helps people and communities with technologies that save energy and resources. NCAT helps government agencies, businesses and non-profits learn and spread information about sustainable energy, agriculture and community development.	Kathy Hadley (406) 494-8637 NCAT kathyh@ncat.org www.ncat.org
National Parks and Conservation Association	The National Parks and Conservation Association's mission is to protect and enhance America's National Parks for present and future generations. In Montana, NPCA is involved in policy issues that affect National Parks. They also cooperate in restoration of bull trout habitat in the North Fork of the Flathead River.	Tony Jewett (406) 495-1559 National Parks and Conservation Association tjewett@npca.org www.npca.org/northernrockies
National Wildlife Federation	The National Wildlife Federation inspires Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future. NWF is interested in helping to involve a broader array of interests in support of the State Wildlife Grant Program. Through its support for Teaming With Wildlife, it advocates for and helps to build support. Through its local affiliates, it can help provide grass roots support and enlist a cadre of volunteers to assist with local, on-the-ground projects. Volunteers who participate in projects are vested in conservation.	Land Tawney (406) 721-6705 National Wildlife Federation tawney@nwf.org www.nwf.org
National Wild Turkey Federation	The National Wild Turkey Federation supports scientific wildlife management on public, private and corporate lands as well as wild turkey hunting as a traditional North American sport. In Montana, NWF's work is focused on conserving turkey habitat and protecting hunting access. It is willing to assist with conservation easements to achieve those objectives. They are particularly interested	Mr. Jared McLunkin (605) 255-5979 National Wild Turkey Federation jared.nwtf@yahoo.com www.nwtf.org

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	<p>in projects to restore riparian habitat in the northern plains and to conserve ponderosa pine in eastern Montana.</p> <p>NWTF works with individual landowners who winter large numbers of turkeys. They also have some funds available to assist with education, habitat projects and transplants.</p>	
<p>Northern Plains Resource Council</p>	<p>To help citizens make a difference in their community, Northern Plains Resource Council coordinates several statewide and regional campaigns in two general areas of focus: protecting our water and land, and building Montana's rural prosperity.</p>	<p>Teresa Erickson (406) 248-1154 Northern Plains Resource Council teresa@northernplains.org www.northernplains.org</p>
<p>Pheasants Forever</p>	<p>Pheasants Forever is dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education and land management policies and programs.</p> <p>PF is a potential player in any cooperative project accomplished at the local level in any community where PF has a presence. Contributing to local habitat enhancement projects is the typical PF approach in Montana. Individual chapters raise funds and then use those funds for habitat projects within their area. PF also has an interest in cooperating in acquisition projects but such projects are a bit unusual in Montana because of the state's size and the distance between local chapters. These projects typically are funded through PF's land/loan program with the funds then repaid by the local chapters.</p>	<p>Dan Hare (701) 250-9921 Pheasants Forever dhare@pheasantsforever.org www.pheasantsforever.org</p>
<p>Plum Creek Timber Company</p>	<p>As a large landowner, Plum Creek recognizes that some of our lands have "special" values to the people who live in communities that surround them. With this in mind, Plum Creek continues to seek</p>	<p>Lorin Hicks (406) 892-6368 Plum Creek Timber</p>

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	<p>opportunities to protect land that has visual, historic, recreation, forestry, wildlife habitat and other significant attributes through long-term conservation sales, easements and land exchanges.</p> <p>Plum Creek Timber Company has developed a Habitat Conservation Plan to ensure conservation of native fish on 1.3 million acres of land in their ownership in northwestern Montana. With the Native Fish HCP in place, the HCP can be used to leverage Sec. 6 funding for land acquisitions that support the objectives of the HCP. This also is an opportunity for working with the fish and wildlife mitigation programs and other partners for native fish monitoring and conservation in northwestern Montana.</p> <p>Plum Creek also entered into a conservation agreement regarding grizzly bears on 75,000 acres of their ownership in the Swan Valley. Plum Creek participated in the grizzly bear agreement. As part of this agreement, all of the company's land sales in the linkage zones in the Swan Valley include deed restrictions to ensure that these are conservation transactions.</p> <p>Plum Creek's business model is changing. In Montana, the model puts more emphasis on selling land and on developing land. Plum Creek needs to be able to work with FWP and other conservation partners earlier in the land use planning process to build conservation measures into the design of developments.</p>	<p>Company Lorin.Hicks@plumcreek.com www.plumcreek.com/ downloads/factsheets/ conservationfactsheet.pdf</p>
<p>PPL Montana</p>	<p>PPL Montana has considerable discretion to cost-share conservation projects within the Missouri-Madison corridor. It provides annual funding to three technical advisory committees: Madison fisheries; Missouri fisheries; and wildlife, system wide. Project proposal are reviewed by the corresponding Technical Advisory Committee. Projects must occur within a mile of the corridor and be consistent with the mitigation objectives defined by the 2188 license for the Madison-</p>	<p>Jon Jourdannais (406) 533-3443 PPL Montana jhjourdannais@ppl.web www.pplmontana.com/ environment/our+environ ment/restoring+habitats.htm</p>

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	<p>Missouri corridor. Within the past 10 years, PPL has contributed \$23M which has leveraged a total of \$76M for conservation in the project area. PPL expects to contribute another \$10M during the decade beginning in 2008.</p> <p>In addition to the fish and wildlife mitigation program, PPL funds a system-wide comprehensive program for recreation. This program includes the potential to acquire open space for recreation which could, secondarily, benefit the objectives in CFWCS.</p>	
Pyramid Lumber	<p>Pyramid Lumber's professional forestry staff promotes forest stewardship and active forest management to achieve sustainable forestry.</p> <p>Pyramid Lumber has worked closely with the Forest Service and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to implement the concept of Stewardship Contracting. Stewardship contracting is an exchange of goods (forest products) for services (various conservation/restoration related activities). Stewardship contracting is a way to achieve multiple benefits for a variety of issues. Revenues generated from the projects are reinvested back on the district to achieve stewardship objectives, e.g. reducing road densities, improving stream crossings, fish and wildlife objectives, forest health, fuels reduction, recreation, etc. Stewardship contracting is a way to develop a broader base of support for projects that have been developed through a landscape level planning effort and provides greater opportunities to identify and build solutions around common ground. Stewardship contracting also is a way to keep industry viable in communities where traditional forest industry is no longer viable.</p>	<p>Gordy Sanders (406) 677-2201 Pyramid Lumber Company gsanders@pyramidlumber.com www.pyramidlumber.com</p>
Ruby Habitat Foundation	<p>At the Ruby Habitat Foundation, we use the word "habitat" in its broadest sense — the living environment that sustains people, livestock, fish, wildlife and plants. We believe that no single land</p>	<p>Les Gilman (406) 842-5010 Ruby Habitat Foundation</p>

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	<p>holding is large enough to be an ecosystem of itself or yard too small to have some impact on its neighbors. Therefore we believe that we are all in this together and that our management decisions make our environment what it is and what it will become.</p> <p>The focus of the Ruby Habitat Foundation includes the Ruby River watershed ecosystem and with some adjustments all of Southwest Montana. The goal is to gather a body of practical knowledge about the Ruby River watershed in particular and Southwest Montana in general, to use and to share. To achieve this we are conducting a number of applied research projects in both vegetative and management choices. We invite your comments and participation.</p>	<p>lgilman@3rivers.net www.rubyhabitat.org/default.php</p>
Sonoran Institute	<p>The Sonoran Institute is a resource for land use planning. The Institute provides information, training, etc., targeted to local land use planning groups and County Commissions. It provides information and case studies to help the planners decide which planning tools are most appropriate for their community, e.g. zoning, regulations, incentives, standards, etc. The Institute also helps communities to develop a community vision and help them plan development consistent with that vision.</p> <p>The Sonoran Institute could help promote partnerships between watershed groups and the county planners.</p> <p>The Sonoran Institute could help develop a set of model ordinances that incorporate measures to address habitat and species priorities defined by CFWCS.</p>	<p>Jennifer Boyer (406) 587-7331 Sonoran Institute jboyer@sonoran.org http://sonoran.org/</p>
Teaming with Wildlife Coalition	<p>The Teaming with Wildlife Coalition includes state fish & wildlife agencies, wildlife biologists, hunters, anglers, birdwatchers, hikers, nature-based businesses and other conservationists who support the goal of restoring and conserving our nation's wildlife. The coalition</p>	<p>Mike Aderhold (406) 453-2459 Montana FWP maderhold@mt.gov</p>

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	<p>formed in the early 1990s and has led efforts to fund wildlife conservation aimed at preventing wildlife from becoming endangered. Nationally, the coalition includes more than 5,000 organizations, businesses, and agencies. The coalition is the leading advocate for the State Wildlife Grants program and the implementation of state wildlife action plans. Montana has established a Teaming with Wildlife Core Team to assist Montana FWP with implementation of the Comprehensive Fish and Wildlife Conservation Strategy and to promote awareness and support for the program. The Core Team includes members from the Montana Wildlife Federation, the National Wildlife Federation, Montana Aububon, Trout Unlimited, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partners and the Montana Association of Land Trusts.</p>	<p>Rich Day (406) 494-8661 Montana Wildlife Federation rday@mtwfw.org www.teaming.com</p>
<p>Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partners</p>	<p>The Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership is a coalition of leading hunting, fishing and conservation organizations, labor unions and individual grassroots partners working together to preserve the traditions of hunting and fishing by a) expanding access to places to hunt and fish, b) conserving fish and wildlife and the habitats necessary to sustain them, and c) increasing funding for conservation and management.</p> <p>TRCP is a partner organization in the Teaming With Wildlife coalition, and is an active member of the Teaming With Wildlife National Steering Committee. TRCP has produced videos, brochures and tabletop displays for sportsmen's organizations that explain State Wildlife Grants and State Wildlife Action Plans to hunters and anglers. They tell hunters and anglers why they should support State Wildlife Grants and what they can do to support the implementation of their own State Wildlife Action Plan. TRCP has a 3-year grant and is working in all 50 states to education, outreach and advocacy for the purpose of building support for the State Wildlife Grant program.</p>	<p>William Geer (406) 396-0909 Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership bgeer@trcp.org www.trcp.org</p>

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<p>Trout Conservancy of Montana</p>	<p>The mission of Trout Conservancy is to conserve and improve Montana's wild trout populations through habitat restoration, education and outreach. The organization provides needed funding for wild trout conservation, habitat restoration and education projects. These projects generally originate with partners. Montana Trout seeks to coordinate and enable, rather than design and implement, our projects and programs. Current programs and activities include restoration work with the U.S. Forest Service, BLM, City of Missoula and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks on Westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout spawning and rearing habitat in Belmont and Chamberlain Creeks, both tributaries of the Blackfoot River in western Montana. Montana Trout is also working to restore natural and productive habitat conditions to parts and Pattee Creek in Missoula, Montana and to Lolo Creek south of Missoula.</p>	<p>John Zelazny (406) 542-7445 Trout Conservancy of Montana mt@montanatrou.org www.montanatrou.org</p>
<p>Trout Unlimited</p>	<p>Montana Trout Unlimited's mission is to conserve, protect, and restore Montana's world-class coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.</p> <p>Trout Unlimited is interested in helping to involve a broader array of interests in support of the State Wildlife Grant Program. Through its support for Teaming With Wildlife, it advocates for and helps to build support. Through its local affiliates, it can help provide grass roots support and enlist a cadre of volunteers to assist with local, on-the-ground projects. Volunteers who participate in projects are vested in conservation.</p>	<p>Michael Gibson (406) 543-0054 Trout Unlimited michael@montanatu.org www.montanatu.org</p>
<p>Trout Unlimited - Western Water Project</p>	<p>TU is shifting its focus, generally, to putting more emphasis on native salmonids. Its Work in the Big Hole is driven by a concern for the arctic grayling. TU has been involved in the watershed group and participated in the development of the on the drought response.</p> <p>TU currently is working cooperatively with FWP to incorporate water rights issues in the Candidate Conservation Agreements Assurances</p>	<p>Stan Bradshaw (406) 449-9922 Trout Unlimited</p>

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	<p>that are being used in the Big Hole drainage. It is important that all of the water rights issues be addressed in a long-term, strategic perspective and balance short-term opportunities with long-term needs. It also is critical to integrate water rights and restoration.</p>	<p>www.tu.org/site/c.kkLRJ7MSKtH/b.3022905/k.9521/Conservation.htm</p>
<p>Turner Endangered Species Fund</p>	<p>The Turner Endangered Species Fund is dedicated to conserving biodiversity by ensuring the persistence of imperiled species and their habitats. TESF's efforts focus on carnivores, grasslands, plant-pollinator complexes, species that historically ranged onto properties owned by R. E. Turner, and dissemination of reliable scientific and policy information on biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>TESF is working in partnership with FWP and USFS to restore west slope cutthroat trout on the Flying D Ranch. TESF employs a biologist who works with FWP and USFWS to promote wolf conservation.</p> <p>Turner properties are managed to promote biodiversity, as an exercise in responsible land stewardship.</p> <p>TESF is a source of good information regarding the science of restoration. TESF does not focus on education but is a credible source of information, much of it available as peer reviewed publications.</p>	<p>Mike Phillips (406) 556-8500 Turner Endangered Species Fund tesf@mon@montana.net www.tesf.org/turner/tesf/</p>
<p>Walleyes Forever</p>	<p>Walleyes Forever is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting walleye fishing, walleye conservation, family recreation and hands-on, grassroots efforts to improve the warm water fisheries of Montana. Although "walleye" is in their name, the organization is dedicated to fish of all species. They strive to work with other groups and FWP for the betterment of fish and wildlife for the future of Montana. Recent projects have included sponsoring kids fishing programs, litter control, and assistance to FWP in purchasing equipment for the native fish study in the Yellowstone River.</p>	<p>Nathan McClenning (406) 371-5165 Walleyes Forever nmcclenning@msn.com www.walleyesforever.com</p>

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<p>Walleyes Unlimited of Montana</p>		<p>Bob Gilbert Walleyes Unlimited elkbug@hotmail.com www.montanavalleyesunlimited.com/index.htm</p>
<p>Western Environmental Trade Association</p>	<p>The mission of Western Environmental Trade Association (WETA) is to establish and maintain coalitions to promote conservation-minded economic development in Montana.</p>	<p>Don Allen (406) 443-5541 Western Environmental Trade Association weta@weta-montana.org http://weta-montana.org/</p>
<p>World Wildlife Fund</p>	<p>The World Wildlife Fund is working with local, regional and national partners to preserve native prairie and to foster biodiversity. One key goal is to expand the number and extent of conservation areas, from 1.5 percent to 10 percent of the region, with large, intact areas of native habitat. We will also endeavor to promote sustainable farming and ranching practices that are compatible with the natural environment.</p> <p>WWF has completed an eco-regional assessment of the northern Great Plains and identified 10 areas of mixed grasslands as priority areas for conservation – based on sensitive prairie species and the habitats to support them. Each priority area has high bio-diversity and good potential for restoration of 2 to 5 million acres of prairie habitat. In Montana, these areas include the area in south Phillips County addressed by the American Prairie Foundation; the Transboundary area (Bitter Creek/Frenchman Creek) on the Canada-Montana border;</p>	<p>Steve Forrest (406) 582-7571 scforrest@earthlink.net www.worldwildlife.org/wildplaces/ngp/index.cfm</p>

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	<p>the ‘Big Open’; the Terry Badlands; an area in northwestern South Dakota, with some adjacent land in Montana; and, the Tongue River drainage. WWF is involved in prairie stream restoration, with an emphasis on restoring the ecological functionality of prairie streams and removal of fish passage barriers in prairie streams. WWF also is involved in a sage grouse project in Valley County.</p> <p>In the areas where WWF is working, the organization can provide technical expertise; assistance with restoration work; fund raising; and, advocacy.</p> <p>WWF recently established a position to work on climate change.</p>	